



Email bulletin (6) – 22 January 2008

It has been a few weeks, but there has been very little to say, and then it all comes along at once.

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Don't forget news is added on a daily basis at

www.freefundingupdate.net

Community Development Foundation Appointed To Deliver £130 Million "Grassroots Grants" Scheme

The Cabinet Office has unveiled the name of a new, multi-million pound funding programme to boost local community organisations with much-needed access to small grants and long-term financing. It also announced the appointment of the Community Development Foundation as its lead national partner in delivering the scheme.



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Grass Roots grants will launch in the new year with £130 million available from 2008-2011 to strengthen the community sector. It will be divided into two parts: an £80 million small grants fund for community organisations; and a groundbreaking £50 million endowments programme to enable local foundations to generate additional

donations from the private sector on a matched basis and invest them in endowments, thereby building their capacity to provide long-term funding for frontline community organisations. The Community Development Foundation (CDF) will open an application process in January to identify and appoint local funders who will deliver grassroots grants locally. Applications will be invited by April with further details of the process and the programme to be confirmed next month.

Minister for the Third Sector, Phil Hope, said:

'The allocation of £130 million to this scheme reflects the Government's recognition

of the vital role community organisations play in strengthening communities. Community-based organisations are at the very root of civil renewal, bringing local people together and empowering them to meet local needs or transform local environments. Yet we know they often struggle to gain finance, placing enormous constraints on their ability to operate. That's why grassroots grants is aimed at improving the funding available to the very smallest of community organisations.'

'I am delighted that the Community Development Foundation will be our lead national partner in delivering the scheme. Their experience and understanding of the community sector, as well as their track record in successfully delivering grants, will be of enormous benefit in getting Grassroots Grants up and running quickly.'

Alison Seabrooke, Chief Executive of the Community Development Foundation, said:

'Community Development Foundation is delighted to be the national lead partner appointed to oversee and evaluate Grassroots Grants on behalf of the Office of the Third Sector in the Cabinet Office. At a local level grassroots grants will support local community based activity in small voluntary and community groups through the small grants programme, whilst also building the capacity of local funding partners and sustaining small grant giving through the endowment programme. All existing local grant givers who meet the criteria are welcome to apply to become local funding partners - and we look forward to receiving their applications after we open the application process.'

Further information about grassroots grants will be available in the new year.

Taken from CDF Website (www.cdf.org.uk)

NGO TV gears up for 2008

Source:

Third Sector Online

Author:



Emma Rigby

Charity channel NGO TV has received an Ofcom licence and is hoping to get a channel number and start broadcasting in the middle of 2008.

It has also launched a holding page for a website that will carry content and programming information next year.

NGO TV plans to transmit documentaries, news and talk shows about charities and international development and is collaborating with the Media Trust's Community Channel to share some content.

It will be financed by advertising between programmes and sponsorship of documentaries.

Shahbaz Sarwar, the company's managing director, said: "One thought is that we will use themes in our broadcasting, so we might focus our programming on children's charities over two weeks, then jump on to a different theme, such as environmental charities. There are lots of ideas we are looking at."

The channel has already completed filming for The Autistic Society and has been supplied with content from charities including Christian Aid and Care International UK. It is in talks with other charities including CRUK and Unicef.

"We have received both edited and unedited documentaries for various charities so we are starting to work on those," said Sarwar.

Benet Middleton, director of communications at The National Autistic Society, said: "NGO TV attended and filmed our photo exhibition in Manchester in November as part of the NAS national awareness campaign, 'think differently about autism'.

"We hope that the coverage will help to increase public awareness of autism and change people's perceptions of this complex and lifelong disability."

The Esmee Fairbairn has now launched its new guidelines which are available on the website at www.esmeefairbairn.org.uk

Access to Nature (Natural England)

Natural England's £25 million Access to Nature initiative seeks to give opportunities to people of all backgrounds to learn more about nature and enjoy the outdoors. The Access to Nature programme should open in early 2008 and will award grants of between £50,000 and £500,000, with some match funding required. There are three broad themes:

- Community awareness and active participation
- Education, learning and volunteering



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- Welcoming, well managed and wildlife rich places.

Grants will be given to organisations and projects that will deliver one or more of Access to Nature's five main objectives:

- A greater number and diversity of people benefiting from the natural environment
- More people learning about the natural environment and gaining new skills
- More people able to enjoy the natural environment as a result of improvements in access to natural places and more connections between sites
- More wildlife rich natural places that are sustainably managed and meet the needs of local communities
- An increased sense of community ownership of local natural places, by the creation of strong partnerships between communities, voluntary organisations, local authorities and statutory bodies.

Applications will be accepted from not for profit organisations and the public sector.

Deadline: Application forms and guidance will be available from early 2008.

Contact: Natural England

Email: accesstonature@naturalengland.org.uk

Website: <http://www.naturalengland.org.uk>

Local Food (Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts)

The Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts is establishing a £50 million funding programme to support local food projects. The scheme will operate from February 2008 to March 2015. Local Food will distribute grants to a variety of food-related projects to help make locally grown food accessible and affordable to local communities. T

here will be five main themes:

- Enable communities to manage land sustainably for growing food locally
- Enable communities to build knowledge and understanding and to celebrate the cultural diversity of food
- Stimulate local economic activity and the development of community enterprises concerned with growing, processing and marketing of local food
- Create opportunities for learning and the development of skills through voluntary training and job creation
- Promote awareness and understanding of the links between food and healthy lifestyles.

Grants will be available in three ranges and can cover capital or revenue costs, including building or land costs:

- Small Grants of £2,000 to £10,000. No match funding is required.



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- Main Grants of £10,001 to £300,000. You will need match funding of between 10-20%.
- Beacon Grants of £300,001 to £500,000. You will need match funding of 30%.

The Small and Main Grants programmes will have no deadlines, with applications accepted as received.

The Beacon Grants programme will have only one application round, which will open on 4 February 2008 and close at the end of April 2008.

Application forms will not be available until February 2008.

Deadline: Apply at any time for Small and Main grants.

The Beacon Grant closes at the end of April 2008.

Contact: Royal Society for Wildlife Trusts

Email: localfood@rswt.org

Website: <http://www.rswt.org/localfood>

Places available for Social Entrepreneurs

The Liverpool and the East Midlands Schools for Social Entrepreneurs each have 10 places available on their learning programmes for individuals setting up or growing cultural projects that have a social or environmental impact. The places are all fully funded by the Cultural Leadership Programme

The places are open to emerging leaders based in the East Midlands or the North West who are setting up or running projects with a social or environmental focus in the following fields:

Crafts, Design, Historic, Environment, Libraries and archives, Museums and galleries, Music, Publishing, Performing Arts, Literary Arts & Visual Arts.

Each course will begin in mid February 2008 and will run for one day a week until the end of July 2008.

New £2m grant programme from BBC Children in Need and The Hunter Foundation

Taken from UK Fundraising website www.fundraising.co.uk

BBC Children in Need and The Hunter Foundation have announced 'Positive Destinations', a £2 million UK-wide grants programme aimed at supporting innovative and effective projects that could deliver positive outcomes to some of the most vulnerable children and young people in the UK.



The three-year programme will see three large grants of around £500,000 each awarded and three smaller grants totalling £500,000.

The funders will seek projects that target either key points in determining a young person's future, such as pre-school, transition from primary to secondary education and the 14 – 16 year period), or "an holistic approach to this problem".

The partnership followed Sir Tom Hunter's pledge of £1 million to the BBC Children in Need Appeal in 2007. Ewan Hunter, Chief Executive of The Hunter Foundation, said: "Every young person deserves the chance to shine. Hopefully through Positive Destinations we can show there are ways of making that a reality on a small scale for larger scale adoption in future".

www.bbc.co.uk/pudsey

£20,000 awards available for tackling youth misuse of alcohol

Taken from UK Fundraising website www.fundraising.co.uk

The Mentor UK CHAMP Awards are offering awards of £20,000 to projects in schools and communities and other young people-led projects in Great Britain that are helping prevent youngsters of 14 and under from misusing alcohol.

The awards, also known as the national Promoting Children's Health through Alcohol Misuse Prevention Awards 2008, will give three winners £10,000 cash and £10,000-worth of consultancy support to expand their schemes. They will also help share information about how to promote healthy attitudes and behaviours amongst young people.

The Mentor UK CHAMP Awards are run every two years by Mentor UK, the drug and alcohol misuse prevention charity working with children and young people. The

awards are supported by drinks producer, Diageo Great Britain, as part of their commitment to educating young people on the dangers of alcohol misuse.

Launching the awards, Mentor UK Chief Executive, Eric Carlin, said: "Mentor UK is especially interested in hearing about schemes that help youngsters avoid the risks of trying alcohol by tackling boredom, lack of aspiration, or schemes that encourage achievement and motivation."

The closing date for entries is 20 April 2008. Anyone can nominate a scheme and details on previous winners and how to enter are available at

www.mentorfoundation.org/uk/awards

Comic Relief seeks more N Ireland applications

Taken from UK Fundraising website www.fundraising.co.uk

Comic Relief is seeking more applications from Northern Ireland for their grants programme. Only 4% of the total awarded went to N Ireland which means there was only £980k spent there in the last 3 years.

Comic Relief operates 3 grants funds for work within the UK. Each of these has different criteria and different application processes and deadlines. The grant programmes up to 2008 are for:

- Young people
- Older People
- Mental Health
- Refugees & Asylum Seekers
- Domestic Violence
- Disadvantaged Communities

For grants over £5000 the next deadline is 29 February 2008. For grants under £5000 there is no deadline.

www.comicrelief.com

Over £500,000 available for social enterprises to tackle homelessness

Taken from UK Fundraising website www.fundraising.co.uk

Organisations providing accommodation, training and employment and well-being services for homeless people are being invited to pitch to win a share of more than £500,000 of investment to offer more people a permanent route off the streets. The funding comes from Spark, a £1.5 million project to prevent and tackle homelessness using social enterprise.

The project is a partnership between the Government, the private sector and leading social enterprises The TREES Group and Big Issue Invest, the finance arm of the publishers of The Big Issue magazine. Other partners are PricewaterhouseCoopers (PWC) and Eastside Consulting.

John Montague, TREES chief executive, said: "We want to sow the seed of enterprise into organisations that are already doing excellent work with homeless people, but know they could achieve more given the right support."



Social enterprises need to submit their business case via the project's website before 18 February 2008.

A shortlist of the top 15 applicants will be announced in February 2008, and each will receive coaching from Eastside Consulting in preparation for a 'Dragon's Den' style pitch event in April.

The top five ideas will win a share of the £500,000 funding provided by the Department of Communities and Local Government, mentoring from the panellists and a one-day 'enterprise makeover' donated by Spark's corporate partners.

In addition, Big Issue Invest has pledged a further £500,000 of potential investment for the best enterprises and the ten runners-up will receive coaching and mentoring.

Junior Housing Minister Iain Wright, who launched the initiative today, said: "This exciting competition will encourage homeless charities to generate a source of income and become more sustainable".

www.sparkchallenge.org

Don't forget news is added on a daily basis at

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