

HOW TO 04

Grant-Giving Organisations

Carers
Information
Service

This factsheet provides information on grant-giving organisations that support carers, disabled people and those on a low income. For more information on financial support available to carers and the people they care for, see our **Money Matters** factsheet. Please note that any organisations listed are included for information only and listing does not mean recommendation.

This factsheet is part of **How To... A Guide for Carers in Croydon**. You can download the full series of factsheets from our website www.carersinfo.org.uk. You can also call us on 020 8649 9339, option 1, or visit the Carers Support Centre.

Some grant-giving organisations will only accept applications from a professional, whilst others allow you to apply as an individual. Please be aware that organisations that allow individual applications will generally require supporting statements from professionals.

In this factsheet, professional applications are marked as professional referral (PR) and applications from individuals are marked as self-referral (SR).



Find local grants

Turn2us

www.turn2us.org.uk
Provides online information on welfare benefits, charitable grants and other financial help. Website includes a benefits calculator and local grants search database.

Grants for children and young people

This section lists organisations that specifically help children and young people. Organisations in other sections may be able to help this age group as well, so it may be worthwhile looking at all your options.

Able Kidz (SR)

www.ablekidz.com
Grants for families with a disabled child or young person aged 18 or under. Applications can be made in writing with a supporting letter from an education or medical professional to Able Kidz Educational Trust, 43 Bedford Street, London WC2E 2HA.

The Boparan Charitable Trust (SR)

0121 214 9364
www.theboparancharitabletrust.com
Provides grants to disabled children, children with a life-limiting condition or children living in extreme poverty until their 19th birthday.

Buttle UK (PR)

020 7828 7311
www.buttleuk.org
Grants towards essential household items for children aged 0-18 who are experiencing severe social welfare issues. Grants also provided to young people aged up to 20 who are living independently and estranged from their family.

Caudwell Children (SR)

01782 600 265 / 266
applications@caudwellchildren.com
www.caudwellchildren.com
Family support services, equipment, treatment and therapies for disabled children aged 0-18 and their families. Provides certain types of equipment only, so check criteria on applying.

Children Today (SR)

01244 335 622
info@childrentoday.org.uk
www.childrentoday.org.uk
Grants for specialised equipment and aids not available through the NHS for disabled children and young people aged 0-25.

Children's Hope Foundation (SR)

020 7700 6855
info@childrenshopefoundation.org.uk
www.childrenshopefoundation.org.uk
Grants towards equipment (including computer equipment), medical treatment or therapies and days out for children aged 3-17 who are disadvantaged due to illness, disability or poverty.

Elifar Foundation (SR)

info@elifarfoundation.org.uk
www.elifarfoundation.org.uk
Grants for disabled children and adults aged up to 28 years. Can provide funding for specialised mobility or sensory equipment.

Family Fund (SR)

01904 621 115

info@familyfund.org.uk

www.familyfund.org.uk

Provides grants to families of disabled or seriously ill children or young people aged up to 17.

Family Holiday Association (PR)

020 3117 0650

grants@familyholidayassociation.org.uk

www.familyholidayassociation.org.uk

Grants towards UK holidays. Families must be on a low income, have a child under 18 and have not had a holiday in the past four years. Families cannot be eligible for a Family Fund grant.

Free Cakes for Kids (SR)www.freecakesforkids.org.uk

Community service to families run by volunteers. Provides birthday cakes to families who find it difficult to provide a cake for their child.

Lifeline 4 Kids (SR)

appeals@lifeline4kids.org

www.lifeline4kids.org

Funds equipment that improves quality of life for disabled children aged 0-18. Accepts online applications only.

The MFPA Trust Fund for the Training of Handicapped Children in the Arts (SR)

tom@flatspace.co.uk

Grants towards participation in the arts for children aged 5-18 with a physical disability.

Newlife – Foundation for Disabled Children (PR)

0800 092 0095

www.newlifecharity.co.uk

Just Can't Wait service offers free loans of essential equipment to children with a life-threatening or life-limiting condition. Includes equipment grants and loaned sensory boxes.

React (Rapid Effective Assistance for Children with Potentially Terminal Illness) (SR)

020 8940 2575

react@reactcharity.org

www.reactcharity.org

Mobility, medical and sensory

equipment, household items, items for education or entertainment, hospital or travel expenses and respite breaks for children aged 0-17 with a life-limiting condition.

Roald Dahl Marvellous Family Grants (PR)

01494 917689

www.roalddahl.com

Provides grants to families experiencing financial hardship who have a child with a serious or life-threatening condition. Please note that this does not include children with cancer or a primary diagnosis of developmental disability such as autism or ADHD. Includes grants towards specialist therapies, hospital travel, white goods, clothing and iPads for education use. Must be referred by a health or social care professional.

Royal National Children's Foundation (SR)

01932 868 622

admin@rnfc.org.uk

www.rnfc.org.uk

Supports children suffering from neglect or trauma. Predominantly helps to fund boarding school education, but may also fund day schools if more appropriate.

Sunny Days Children's Fund (SR)

01376 528 376

margaret@sunnydaysfund.org.uk

www.sunnydaysfund.org.uk

Grants to families of children with a chronic or life-limiting medical condition. Includes grants towards white goods, hospital visiting expenses, medical or sensory equipment, computers (excluding iPads or tablets) and clothing. Also provides short breaks for families in holiday homes.

Tom's Gift (SR)

020 7840 7810

macmillangrants@macmillan.org.uk

Present and £30 gift voucher for children aged 0-16 who are receiving treatment for cancer.

Trefoil (SR)

0131 220 3249

www.trefoil.org.uk

Personal development grants for young people aged under 25 with special educational needs or a disability. Grants include funding young people to participate in overseas conservation or community projects, as well as specialist equipment.

Turn2Us Response Fund (PR)www.turn2us.org.uk

Supports people who are coping with a life-changing event in the last 12 months. Grants only available from intermediary charity partners, including Carers Trust: www.carers.org.

Variety Club Children's Charity (SR)

020 7428 8100

grants@variety.org.uk

www.varietyclub.org.uk

Medical, care or sensory equipment and grants for other items of equipment for children aged 0-18 who have an illness, disability or who are disadvantaged.

Whizz Kidz (SR)

020 7233 6600

info@whizz-kidz.org.uk

www.whizz-kidz.org.uk

Mobility equipment not available from the NHS for disabled children aged up to 17.



Wish-making grants

Many charities specialise in granting wishes for children and young people who have a serious, life-limiting or life-threatening illness. Check directly with the organisation for further details on eligibility criteria.

Dreams Come True (SR)

0800 018 6013

info@dreamscometrue.uk.com

www.dctc.org.uk

Provides wishes for children and young people aged 2-21 with a serious, life-threatening or life-limiting medical condition.

Promise Dreams (SR)

01902 212 451

info@promisedreams.co.uk

www.promisedreams.co.uk

Provides wishes for children and young people aged 0-18 with a life-limiting or life-threatening condition.

Rays of Sunshine (SR)

020 8782 1171

www.raysofsunshine.org.uk

Provides wishes to children and young people aged 3-18 with a life-threatening medical condition.

Starlight (SR)

020 7262 2881

www.starlight.org.uk

Provides wishes to children and young people aged 4-18 with a life-limiting or life-threatening condition.

When You Wish Upon a Star (SR)

0115 979 1720

www.whenyouwishuponastar.org.uk

Provides wishes to children and young people aged 2-16 with a life-limiting or life-threatening condition.

Grants for older people

Aid for the Aged in Distress (SR)

0870 803 1950

www.aftaid.org.uk

Grants for people aged 65 and over on a low income with minimal savings. Grants can go towards the costs of household goods and mobility scooters. Grants may also be provided towards home maintenance or adaptations.

Friends of the Elderly (PR)

0330 332 1110

hello@fote.org.uk

www.fote.org.uk

One-off grants towards essential items such as basic furniture and flooring, household appliances, home adaptations and mobility aids. Can also help with utility bills. Grants are available for people of state retirement age living on a low income with savings under £4000.

Grants for people with cancer

Macmillan Grants (PR)

0808 808 0000

macmillangrants@macmillan.org.uk

www.macmillan.org.uk

Grants for people with cancer on a low income with savings under £6,000 (£8,000 for a couple).

Benevolent funds

Benevolent funds provide financial help to people who work or who have worked in particular industries. There are hundreds of benevolent funds so this list is not exhaustive. Carers Trust has a longer list: www.carers.org.

Charity for Civil Servants (SR)

0800 056 2424

help@foryoubyyou.org.uk

www.foryoubyyou.org.uk

Support including grants for current and former civil servants, and their financial dependants.

Elizabeth Finn Fund (PR)

Elizabeth Finn Fund, Hythe

House, London W6 7NL

www.turn2us.org.uk

Part of Turn2Us. Offers grants to individuals from a professional background and their dependants. Individuals must have less than £4,000 in savings, be on a low income and work/be the partner or ex-partner of someone in a listed profession. Grants exclude university costs, debt relief, legal fees, holidays, computer equipment or funeral expenses.

Professionals Aid Council (SR)

020 7935 0641

admin@professionalsaid.org.uk

www.professionalsaid.org.uk

Provides grants to individuals with a higher education degree or equivalent professional qualification. Individuals must have previously applied to the benevolent fund for the relevant occupation, and be on a low income with savings under £6000 if below Pension Credit age, or below £10,000 if above. Areas covered include

respite care, essential repairs, essential furniture, white goods, and care home in certain circumstances. Also provides education grants- see Education Grants section for details.

Grants for veterans

Officers' Association (SR)

020 7808 4175

www.officersassociation.org.uk

Provides help and support to former officers of the armed forces and their dependants. Financial help can cover disability aids, white goods, furniture and care home top-up fees. Each case is considered on individual circumstances.

Heating and utility grants

A number of utility providers (water, gas and electricity) offer one-off grants and further assistance payments for people who are struggling to pay their utility bills. Applicants will need to meet certain criteria. Contact your water or energy provider to find out if they offer this type of scheme and how to apply.

Affordable Warmth Obligation (SR)

0300 123 1234 (Energy

Saving Advice Service)

www.gov.uk/energy-company-obligation

Government scheme funded by six major UK energy companies. Provides grants and financial support to homeowners, people living in social housing or private tenants (with the landlord's permission) on certain means-tested benefits to cover all or part of the costs of installing home energy-saving improvements.

Cold Weather Payments (SR)

0345 600 0723

www.gov.uk/cold-weather-payment

Individuals receiving certain means-tested benefits will receive a weekly £25 payment when the temperature is at or below zero degrees Celsius for seven consecutive days during the winter period. The winter period is 1 November to 31 March. If eligible, you will be paid automatically.

Croydon Healthy Homes (SR)

0800 292 2529

www.croydon.gov.uk/healthyhomes

Helps eligible Croydon residents, including carers, save money on heating and energy bills. An energy assessor can provide home visits and offer advice, fit small energy-saving devices, support with switching supplier and suggest larger energy-saving improvements. To access the scheme, you must own or privately rent your own home.

npower Health Through Warmth Scheme (PR)

0800 022 220 (Energy Efficiency Option)

healththroughwarmth@npower.com

www.npower.com/healththrough_warmth

Supports people with long-term illnesses who are unable to fully fund home heating systems/repairs and insulation. Individuals must own and occupy their own home but be on a low income and minimal savings.

South West London Law Centres

020 8767 2777

www.swllc.org

Provides free legal advice in South West London, including Croydon. Can provide support with applying for utility debt relief and grant applications.

Thames Water Customer Assistance Fund (SR)

0800 111 4680

contact@twcaf.org.uk

www.thameswater.co.uk

Provides support to Thames Water customers who are struggling to pay their water bills. Can also apply to Thames Water Trust Fund for a grant towards an essential household item or other related costs.

Warm Home Discount Scheme (SR)

0345 603 9439

www.gov.uk/the-warm-home-discount-scheme

Government heating discount scheme for older people on a low income. Can receive a £140 discount off heating bills if your energy supplier is part of the scheme, your name (or partner's name) is on your energy bills and you receive the Guarantee Credit

element of Pension Credit. If eligible, you should receive a letter by late December explaining how to apply. If you have not received one, contact the Warm Home Discount Team directly.

Educational grants

Diamond Education Grant (SR)

www.sigbi.org/our-charities/deg

Grants to assist women to update skills after employment breaks or to acquire new skills to improve opportunities for employment. Applications run on a yearly cycle.

Disabled Students' Allowances (SR)

0300 100 0607 (Student

Finance England)

www.gov.uk/disabled-students-allowances-dsas

Payments to disabled students in higher education (undergraduate or postgraduate course lasting over a year) to help meet additional course costs resulting from their disability.

Applicants must qualify for student finance from Student Finance England.

Family Action (SR)

020 7254 6251

www.family-action.org.uk

Educational Grants Fund gives grants to individuals aged 14 and over on a low income to help them start or continue education or training. Applications can be made for additional costs, including fees, travel, books and equipment.

The individual must be attending a college or university affiliated to the Educational Grants Service.

Frank Denning Memorial Charity (SR)

020 8726 6000 ext 14773

(Victoria Lower)

victoria.lower@croydon.gov.uk

www.croydon.gov.uk/advice/grants/frankdenning

Grants for students aged 19-25 who live, or whose parents live, in Croydon to pay for travel abroad to carry out projects with an educational objective.

Helena Kennedy Foundation (SR)

020 8223 2027

enquiries@hkf.org.uk

www.hkf.org.uk

Bursaries for students in severe financial hardship who are experiencing barriers progressing from further to higher education.

Lawrence Atwell's Charity (SR)

020 7213 0561

atwell@skinners.org.uk

www.atwellcharity.org.uk/form1

Grants for individuals aged 16-26 from households on a low income to undertake vocational training to help them progress towards employment.

Other Support (SR)

Your university, college or institution may have its own bursary scheme for students on a low income. For more information on financial support for students on a low income, visit www.gov.uk or contact your educational institution.

Professionals Aid Council (SR)

020 7935 0641

Grants of up to £500 for medical, dental or veterinary university students in the final two years of their course. Students must have one or two parents or carers with a university degree or have a first-class undergraduate degree. Also provides grants towards children's educational costs, including school uniform and some school transport costs.

The Snowdon Trust (SR)

01403 732 899

info@snowdontrust.org

www.snowdonawardscheme.org.uk

Grants to students in post-16 education with a physical or sensory disability to pay for additional disability-related costs not fully funded by statutory funding.



Student Health Association (SR)

www.studenthealthassociation.co.uk

Student Disability Assistance Fund provides grants of up to £500 to students in higher education on a full-time basis to help meet extra costs associated with their illness or disability. Students must have applied for Disabled Students Allowance (DSA) before making a grant application.

Thomas Wall Trust

information@thomaswalltrust.org.uk

www.thomaswalltrust.org.uk

Grants towards training courses to improve an individual's chances of employment. Applicants must be aged 16 plus, earn an average UK salary or below and face employment barriers.

Learning to drive

Carers often ask about grants for driving lessons. Unfortunately we are not aware of any organisations offering driving lesson grants specifically for carers at this time. The Glasspool Trust may offer grants towards driving tests and/or lessons when there is a clear offer of employment (see Other Grants section). The following schemes offer grants for driving lessons for a disabled person.

Family Fund (SR)

01904 621 115

info@familyfund.org.uk

www.familyfund.org.uk

Driving Ambitions grant supports disabled young people to start driving lessons. Applicants must have no experience of driving or driving lessons. Grants can contribute towards the cost of the provisional license, theory test, learning materials and the first taster lesson.

Motability Scheme (SR)

Customers of the Motability Scheme aged 16-25 can receive a contribution towards the cost of driving lessons for up to 40 hours of tuition. Applicants must be in full-time education or training and they or their parents must receive a means-tested benefit.

Other grants

The ACT Foundation (SR)

01753 753 900

info@theactfoundation.co.uk

www.theactfoundation.co.uk

Grants to individuals in need, specifically disabled or older people, to help towards the costs of short-term respite breaks at a registered respite centre. Also provides grants for equipment under certain conditions.

Bruce Wake Charitable Trust (PR)

www.brucewaketrust.co.uk

Provides grants to disabled people, particularly wheelchair users, to access leisure activities. Applications should preferably be made by a non-profit organisation on an individual's behalf using the online application form.

Croydon Discretionary Support (SR)

020 8760 5719

www.croydon.gov.uk/advice/benefits/discretionary-support/croydon-discretionary-support

Discretionary payments to support people in times of crisis. Applicants need to be aged 16 or over, resident in Croydon for at least three months and receive an income-related benefit or disability benefit. Awards occur annually and will normally be in the form of gift cards or vouchers. Cash payments will not be issued.

Disabled Facilities Grant (PR)

020 8726 6500 (Croydon

Adult Social Care)

Referral.team2@croydon.gov.uk

(Croydon Adult Social Care)

www.croydon.gov.uk/housing/privatehousing/disability

Grants of up to £30,000 for owners and tenants of private and housing association properties to pay for adaptations to help a disabled person stay in their home. The grant is means-tested and individuals will be financially assessed. Contact adult social care to apply. An occupational therapist (OT) will assess your home before a grant is made.

Equipment for Independent Living (PR)

One-off grants to disabled people aged 16 or over to purchase disability equipment. Application forms should be sent to Janet Hillman, Honorary Secretary, 19 Flanchford Road, London W12 9ND

Florence Nightingale Aid in Sickness Trust (PR)

020 7998 8817

ann.griffiths@fnaist.org.uk

www.fnaist.org.uk

Grants to individuals of any age with an illness or disability to pay for medical items or services that improve quality of life, such as convalescent care. Applications must be made by a health or social care professional, such as a doctor or social worker.

Glasspool Trust (PR)

020 3141 3161

grants@glasspool.org.uk

www.glasspool.org.uk

Grants to individuals in need for essential items such as white goods, travel expenses for hospital visits, and disability equipment. Applicants are required to apply for state benefits and/or local authority support before making an application.

Hospital Saturday Fund (PR)

020 7202 1365

charity@hsf.eu.com

www.hospitalsaturdayfund.org

Provides grants to individuals with a medical condition or disability who would benefit from specialised equipment or medical treatment. Grants can cover mobility or therapeutic equipment, medical aids, specialised computer equipment, therapeutic treatment, home adaptations or a respite break in a treatment centre.

Independence at Home (PR)

020 8427 7929

iah@independenceathome.org.uk

www.independenceathome.org.uk

Grants for people with a long-term illness or disability on a low income towards the cost of home adaptations, equipment or other essential items directly related to their disability. Individuals must not be eligible for statutory funding.

League of the Helping Hand (PR)

01444 236 099

secretary@lhh.org.uk

www.lhh.org.uk

One-off grants and regular financial support to people experiencing financial hardship due to illness, disability or a caring role. Grants can pay for essential household items such as domestic appliances and specialist equipment. Provides one-off grants towards carer respite breaks.

Margaret's Fund (PR)

www.margaretsfund.co.uk

Grants for women with a long-term illness in financial need to pay for convalescent holidays, disability aids, clothing, food and heating. Applications must be made via a social care professional.

Mary Macarthur Holiday Trust (SR)

02920 359 091

cheryl.andrews@mmht.org.uk

www.mmht.org.uk

Grants for holidays for women aged over 18 who have not had a holiday for several years. Preference is given to women in, or who have been in, employment. Women who are currently unemployed can also apply.

The Matthew Trust (PR)

020 7736 5976

amt@matthewtrust.org

www.matthewtrust.org

Grants to people who are experiencing mental health problems to pay for items such as household goods, clothing, and counselling and medical bills. Applicants must have exhausted all other avenues of financial help, including statutory funding. Also provides support to young carers of a parent or sibling with a mental health problem to access leisure, cultural and educational opportunities.

Mobility Trust (SR)

0118 984 2588

mobility@mobilitytrust.org.uk

www.mobilitytrust.org.uk

Provides powered wheelchairs and scooters for disabled adults and children who cannot obtain them through statutory sources or purchase equipment themselves.

Newby Trust (PR)

info@newby-trust.org.uk

www.newby-trust.org.uk

Grants of up to £250 for individuals and families on a low income in a crisis situation. Grants are provided to meet an individual's basic needs. Applications from organisations only.

Ogilvie Charities (PR/SR)

01394 388 746

www.ogilviecharities.org.uk

Provides several charitable grant funds including carer holidays, essential household items and education and training. Contact directly for the eligibility criteria for each fund.

The Percy Bilton Charity (PR)

020 8579 2829

percybilton@aol.com

www.percybiltoncharity.org.uk

Grants for people with a long-term illness or disability, or aged 65 and over, on a low income. Social workers, community psychiatric nurses and occupational therapists may apply. Can provide basic household items including white goods, single beds, flooring and clothing vouchers.

The Respite Association (SR)

01775 820 176

help@respiteassociation.org

www.respiteassociation.org

Funding for respite (short breaks) for carers on a low income. Also offers free breaks for carers at caravans in Skegness and near Blackpool.

Talisman Charitable Trust (PR)

www.talismancharity.org

Grants to people living on a low income to help with education, health, housing and disability costs. Applications can be made in writing to The Talisman Charitable Trust, Basement Office, 354 Kennington Road, London SE11 4LD.

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Every effort has been made to ensure the contents of this factsheet are correct, but the Carers Information Service cannot accept responsibility for information that is inaccurate or for the quality of the services listed. All the How To... A Guide for Carers in Croydon factsheets are available at www.carersinfo.org.uk to download, where they will be regularly updated.

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