

FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENT

Dartford church launches special grant to support struggling charities

World Mission Agency - Winners Chapel International (WMA-WCI) on Monday 18th May, 2020, would launch an Emergency Relief Fund to help give local Kent charities and social enterprises a better chance of surviving the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Dartford-based charity already has a portfolio of established support programmes for local people and organisations, such as a foodbank, Christmas hamper scheme and youth initiatives. Since the lockdown in March, the charity's food bank has seen a significant rise in demand for support.

WMA-WCI's National Pastor, Nathaniel Odin said: "We recognise the need to strengthen the muscle of local charities so that we can work together to support our Kent community at this trying time.

"The Emergency Relief Fund will provide grants during the coronavirus pandemic for well-managed small charities and social enterprises that provide vital services in Kent. The Fund is specifically aimed at building resilience in small charities, giving them a better chance to continue their services and navigate through the Covid-19 crisis."

The Fund

Qualifying charities can apply for unrestricted grants up to £5,000 for any of the following community support programmes:

- Foodbank and poverty alleviation
- Tackling homelessness
- Collaboration, inclusion, and diversity
- Improving health, safety and the environment
- Enterprise and employability training.

Applicants would have to demonstrate the impact of their mission, offer creative solutions for getting through the current crisis and have plans for delivery beyond the acute phase of the pandemic.

A simple fast-track, application and assessment process has been designed to make it swift and easy to apply. WMA-WCI Community Development Committee (CDC) will also provide support with the process. The aim is to make funding decisions within two weeks of receiving an application.

Application submission deadline is Friday 5th June, 2020. Organisations who wish to apply will find all the information they need at winnersinthecommunity.com

Organisations will be able to re-apply for further funding, if appropriate.

Keeping charities and social enterprises viable

Kent has many small charities and social enterprises that are at the forefront of addressing a plethora of social issues from poverty, domestic violence to social isolation. However, due to the nature of fundraising, many operate on limited funds with few reserves to sustain them through a crisis.

Many organisations have scaled back their activities significantly during this period but need to be ready for an intense period of delivery once current restrictions are lifted. The Fund will

ensure that small charities and social enterprises can meet the rapidly changing needs of beneficiaries, remain viable and continue to deliver once the coronavirus pandemic is over. For more information or questions, please contact: cdc@winners-chapel.org.uk

ENDS

NOTES TO EDITORS

- World Mission Agency - Winners Chapel International (WMA-WCI) is a charity registered in in England and Wales. The Charity aims to advance the Christian faith and support the local community through education, ensuring the well-being of members and by providing support to those experiencing hardship on the community.
- The Emergency Relief Fund is a pilot initiative that enables WMA-WCI to use this innovative model to support small charities and social enterprises in Kent, develop new partnerships and achieve its five-fold objectives. During the pilot, WMA-WCI will deliver grant-funding and targeted pro bono support to at least five Kent-based charities and social enterprises.
- Applications will be accepted from any UK registered Kent based charities, CICs (define), CIOs (define) and CBSs (define) with annual incomes below £100,000 who have been operating for a minimum of two years.
- Guidance, FAQs and details on how to apply. Please visit our website: winnersinthecommunity.com
- Media enquiries: media.information@winners-chapel.org.uk