

Buckinghamshire External Funding

FUNDING INSIGHT NEWSLETTER

20th April 2009

General - Capacitybuilders Modernisation Fund (England)

Capacitybuilders, which is a non-departmental public body responsible for developing the capacity of the third sector within England, has announced that the first stage of the Modernisation Fund will open for applications in June 2009. The Capacitybuilders Modernisation Fund is part of the Government's £42.5 million initiative to assist third sector organisations become stronger and more resilient to the impact of the economic downturn. Capacitybuilders element of the Modernisation Fund will total £16.5 million. As part of Stage 1 of the Modernisation Fund, it is anticipated that around 1000 successful applicants will receive a bursary worth £1,000 which they can use to pay for at least two days of initial advice to explore how mergers and collaboration may help their business adapt and become more resilient to the impact of the economic downturn. Further grants of around £10,000 will be available later in the year for organisations who want to make further progress towards collaboration and/or merger. Application for stage two grants will be dependant on having accessed stage one funding. A second element of the Modernisation Fund will be managed by Futurebuilders and due to open for applications in the near future.

<http://www.capacitybuilders.org.uk/content/ModernisationFund.aspx>

General - Futurebuilders Modernisation Fund (England)

Futurebuilders England has announced that its Modernisation Fund is due to open for applications in the near future. The £9.5 million Futurebuilders Modernisation Fund, launched as a key part of the Government's action plan for the third sector, aims to help organisations become stronger and more resilient to the impact of the recession. Third sector organisations in England with an income over £750,000 that are delivering services to people or communities that are affected by the recession, are eligible to apply for investments ranging in size from £30,000 to £500,000. Types of activities that can be supported include:

Collaborating with other third sector organisations to deliver services or other collaboration aimed to increase efficiency

- The cost of merging with other organisations; recruiting new staff
- Introducing new processes and systems

- Retraining and upskilling existing staff.

Although the Fund is not yet open, organisations may register their interest by e-mail or telephone.

<http://www.futurebuilders-england.org.uk/our-products/product-menu/modernisation-fund/>

General - Funding for the Regeneration of Public Parks (UK)

The Heritage Lottery Fund has announced that eight communities across the UK will be sharing grants totaling £14million from the Heritage Lottery Fund's Parks for People programme. The grants will be used to regenerate and restore parks in:

- Hertfordshire
- Leicestershire
- Staffordshire
- Perthshire
- Lanarkshire
- Cornwall
- Coventry
- Sunderland.

In addition to transforming these public spaces, the grants will fund increased volunteering and training opportunities for over a thousand people as part of the projects, with activities as wide-ranging as:

- Planting
- Habitat creation
- Tour guiding
- Garden design
- Woodland
- Event management.

A further £1.6million of development funding has also been awarded to 13 other parks to help them work up detailed proposals for applications of more than £20million. The Parks for People programme is open to Local Authorities as well as not for profit organisations that own public parks and gardens. Eligible organisations can apply for grants of between £250,000 and £5 million. There are two funding rounds each year and the next closing date for applications is the 31st August 2009.

<http://www.hlf.org.uk/English/MediaCentre/Archive/Spring+spruce+up+for+UK+parks.htm>

General - Government Launches New Inspiring Communities Initiative (England)

The Department for Communities and Local Government has announced a new £10m initiative to encourage young people to unlock their talent. The new Inspiring Communities initiative is aimed at specific areas of deprivation where young people often exhibit low self esteem, low aspirations and limited horizons. Inspiring Communities will make funding available to up to 15 neighbourhoods (comprising between 5,000 and 10,000 residents) who will receive up to £450,000 and expert help over the next 2 years to design and deliver projects and activities that will aim to invest in locally conceived, locally delivered projects designed to raise the achievement of young people, broaden their horizons and build up self esteem. The programme aims to empower local partnerships - parents, neighbours, businesses, teachers, voluntary groups and councils - to harness their collective knowledge, energy, resources and enthusiasm to boost the aspirations and achievements of young people. As a minimum partnerships must feature the local authority, local secondary school(s) and local third sector organisations. However, the involvement of young people, parents and the wider community, local business local youth services, and other relevant service providers is strongly encouraged. The deadline for applications is the 3rd June 2009.

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/communities/neighbourhoodrenewal/inspiringcommunities/>

General - Nationwide Foundation Grants Programme (UK)

The Nationwide Foundation, a registered charity set up and funded by the Nationwide Building Society, has announced that its Investor Programme is now open for applications. Through the Investors Programme grants of up to £300,000 over three years are available to charities with an income not exceeding £10 million a year. The type of issues that the Foundation seeks to address include:

- Financial exclusion
- Housing issues and homelessness amongst vulnerable groups
- Supporting families and helping prevent family breakdowns.

The Foundation provides grants for; Research; New projects, pilot projects and existing work (based on previous evidence of need / research); and Awareness raising / campaigning to promote change. Priority will be given to applications for work which encompass two or three of these. The Foundation are also able to fund core costs and to contribute towards the salaries of finance staff for the charity. The closing date for applications through the Investor Programme is the 31st May 2009. In addition the Foundation also offers grants of up to £5,000 through its Small Grants Programme to charities with incomes of under £500,000. Applications to the Small Grants Programme can be made at any time.

<http://www.nationwidefoundation.org.uk/grants.asp#a2>

General - Government to Launch Targeted Support Fund (England)

The Office of the Third Sector has announced that it will be launching the £15 million Targeted Support Fund in the next few weeks. Grants will be available to small, local third sector service providers who have experienced increased demand as a result of the recession. Services that will be funded under the Targeted Support Fund will be those that are providing key, recession focussed services under one of the following themes:

- Information, advice and guidance (housing, financial, debt and legal advice and support)
- Employment and employability (training and support related to finding employment)
- Health and wellbeing (mental health, relationship breakdown, counselling, domestic violence & substance abuse).

The funding will be available in the 50 areas most at risk from the recession. The areas that will benefit from the grants programme are now available to view on the Cabinet Office website.

http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/third_sector/news/news_stories/090415_funding.aspx

General - New Programme for Homeless Entrepreneurs (England)

Spark which is a development and investment programme that aims to inspire organisations to build social enterprises that will prevent and tackle homelessness using sustainable business models has announced a new Fund to support homeless entrepreneurs. 'Sparklers' is a one year pilot programme that has a total of £50,000 available to support promising entrepreneurs who have a business idea and want to launch a social enterprise. To be eligible the applicant must be living in supported housing or currently be homeless. Sparklers aims to support 5 promising individuals who want to set up a social business. Sparklers offers a tailored 7 month business support programme helping develop the entrepreneur's business skills. There is a cash prize of between £500 and £5,000 for each successful individual, which can be used for the things that are needed to start or develop the project such as materials, equipment, renting rooms for meetings etc. Each applicant must be supported by an organisation that will endorse their application and through which any transfer of funding can be channelled. The Closing Date for applications is 5 pm on the 18th May 2009.

<http://www.sparkchallenge.org/sparklers.html>

General - Heroes Return 2 Scheme (UK)

The Big Lottery Fund (BIG) has announced the Heroes Return 2 Scheme is now open to applications. The Heroes Return 2 Scheme provides funding to help World War II veterans that saw active service overseas with or alongside the British Allied Armed Forces in the Second World War, and are resident in the UK or the Republic of Ireland to take part in commemorative visits (within the UK and overseas) to mark the anniversary of events that led to the end of WWII. The Heroes Return Scheme offers fixed amount grants of between £150 and £5,500 for each veteran and their spouse and/or carer towards the cost of their visit. There are five levels of funding according to the destination. Applications can be submitted at any time between the 1st April 2009 and the 31st January 2011. For further information on this scheme please call the application deadline on 0845 0000 121.

http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog_heroes_return?tab=2®ioncode=-uk&status=theProg

General - Ofcom Launches New Bidding Round under its Community Radio Fund (UK)

The Office of Communications (Ofcom) has launched the latest bidding round under its Community Radio Fund. The Fund has been established to help fund the core costs of running a community radio station. These not-for-profit radio stations have a social purpose, and work to involve their target community in running the service. Under the fund, Community Radio Stations are being invited to apply for funding to support their core running costs. These core costs can include:

- Management
- Administration
- Financial management & reporting
- Fundraising to support the station (grants and commercial funding)
- Community outreach
- Volunteer organisation and support.

There is no upper limit of grant that can be applied for. Grants can only be made to community radio licensees ("Licensee") which are broadcasting under a community radio licence (and not an RSL, for example). During the last bidding round 35 Community Radio Stations received grants ranging from £5,000 to £17,000. The closing date for applications is 5 pm on the 12th May 2009.

http://www2.ofcom.org.uk/radio/ifi/rbl/commun_radio/Communityfund/

General - Union Learning Fund (England)

The Union Learning Fund (ULF) has announced that Unions wishing to bid for projects to start in April 2010 will be able to apply from September 2009 when the next Prospectus will be launched. Under the Learning Union Fund, Trade Unions or any national organisation representing trade are able to apply for financial assistance to open up a wide range of learning opportunities for their members. The type of activities that have been funded in previous years include amongst others:

- The training and development of Union Learning Representatives
- Projects that address low skills within the workplace
- Promoting e-learning opportunities
- Developing sectoral approaches to union led learning.

<http://www.unionlearningfund.org.uk/>

General - RIFE Open Fund Open to Applications (South East)

Screen South have announced that they are open to applications through the RIFE Open Fund. The fund is open to individuals and legally constituted organisations operating in the Screen South region for development, production, training and travel bursaries. There are two funding streams:

- The RIFE Open Fund for small grants of up to £500 which runs on a monthly basis
- The RIFE Open Fund for large grants of over £500 which runs on a quarterly basis.

The deadline for applications is the 6th May 2009 for small grants and the 17th June for large grants.

<http://www.screensouth.org/content.aspx?parent=4&page=49>

Other Funding News

General - £750,000 for Campaigning Charities (England)

The Cabinet Office, has announced a £750,000 scheme that will identify and promote innovative ways for the third sector to act as a strong voice specially for the most disadvantage people in society. This is the first ever government action research programme to strengthen the ability of charities and other third sector organisations to campaign for change. The new programme will be developed and delivered over two years, with packages of grants and support services to be provided to up to 30 nominated groups. Capacitybuilders

will be managing the programme. Further details about the programme will be announced later this spring, but it is likely that this will not be an open grants programme.

http://www.capacitybuilders.org.uk/detail/Capacitybuilders_to_manage_Governments_new_Campaigning_Programme/99/383.aspx

Funding Reminders

General - LIFE+ Programme to Launch Next Call for Proposals (UK)

The European Commission has announced that it will be launching the a new call for proposals under the LIFE+ programme on the 15th May 2009. The LIFE + programme is the EU's main fund for supporting environmental projects. With a budget of €2.143 billion, Life + (2007 -13) it will address all four priority areas of the Sixth Environment Action Programme. These are;

- Climate change;
- Nature and biodiversity;
- Health and quality of life;
- Natural resources and waste.

Life + is divided into a number of funding strands that will support:

- Best practice or demonstration projects that contribute to the implementation of the EU's Birds and Habitats Directives;
- Innovative and demonstration projects that halt the loss of biodiversity;
- Projects that contribute to the implementation of Community environmental policy;
- Projects that implement communication and awareness raising campaigns on environmental, nature protection or biodiversity conservation issues, as well as projects related to forest fire prevention.

LIFE+ funding is available to both public and private bodies registered in the EU. The maximum co-financing rate will be 50%. Since the LIFE unit anticipates that there are unlikely to be significant changes with respect to the 2008 call, it recommends that potential applicants begin preparing their applications using the 2008 applications package. The total budget that will be made available to support the call will be of EUR 250 million. An example of a project funded through LIFE was submitted by Royal Society for the Protection of Birds to bring about a significant and sustained improvement in the condition two Special Areas of Conservation in Wales.

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/funding/lifeplus.htm>

General - Heritage Grants - £50,000 plus (UK)

This programme offers grants of £50,000 or more. Projects should conserve and enhance the nation's diverse heritage or encourage more people to be involved in their heritage or both. Projects should also make sure that everyone can learn about, have access to and enjoy their heritage. Applications can be made at any time. For applications where the grant request is £5 million and over the application deadline is the 30th September each year.

<http://www.hlf.org.uk/English/HowToApply/OurGrantGivingProgrammes/HeritageGrants/default.htm>

General - Gypsy and Traveller Sites Grant (England)

The Homes and Communities Agency (HCA), the national housing and regeneration agency for England has announced that it is inviting applications for funding through the Gypsy and Traveller Sites Grant 2009 – 2011. The fund is open to Local Authorities, Arms Length Management Organisations and Registered Social Landlords who wish to provide social rented sites for:

- Gypsies and Travellers
- New age travellers
- Travelling show people.

The aim of the grant programme is to increase the number and quality of authorised sites throughout England thereby reducing the number of unauthorised encampments and the problems associated with these and provide the basis to tackle inequalities in access to service provision experienced by Gypsies and Travellers. A total of £32 million is available to support this bidding round and the closing date for bids is 30 June 2009.

http://www.homesandcommunities.co.uk/32million_available_2009_10_Gypsy_Traveller_Sites?p=1

General - £1 Million Available to Support Youth Projects (UK)

Young people are being given the chance to claim a share of £1 million to help tackle the dangers of drugs, crime and play a positive role in their community. The Royal Bank of Scotland Community Cash Awards will see £1 million of grants being distributed by youth charity "The Prince's Trust" to young people who want to run community projects in some of Britain's poorest areas. The Awards, worth £250 to £5,000, are available to disadvantaged 14 to 25-year-olds who want to transform their area and learn practical skills. Projects could

range from improving local youth facilities to tackling teenage pregnancy or drug misuse. Projects must:

- be run and managed by people between the ages of 14 and 25
- clearly benefit the local community
- benefit the people running the project
- be a new or developing project.

Previous projects supported include; an amateur boxing project to give young people greater confidence; and a media project to promote community cohesion and greater understanding between the local community and asylum seekers. Applications can be made at any time.

http://www.princes-trust.org.uk/need_help/grants/community_cash_awards.aspx

General - The Civil Society Challenge Fund (UK)

The Department for International Development (DFID) has announced that it is seeking applications under the Civil Society Challenge Fund (CSCF). The CSCF is an annual competitive fund which can provide up to £500,000 for 5 years for projects that support the British government's fight against world poverty in the developing world and to help raise awareness of development issues within the UK. The fund is open to not-for-profit UK-based civil society organisations, networks or coalitions which share DFID's overall goal of poverty eradication. DFID welcome applications from:

- Non-governmental organisations
- Membership groups
- Faith based organisations
- Trade unions
- Others.

Applicants need not be organisations whose primary purpose is international development. However, applicants need to demonstrate that they have an established and effective relationship with local civil society organisation(s) in the countries where the project will be implemented. Applicants must first submit a Concept Note. The deadline for receipt of Concept Notes is 31st May and the deadline for full proposals is 31st July. Funding for successful projects will be from the following April.

<http://www2.dfid.gov.uk/funding/civilsocietycf.asp>

General - Alcohol Education and Research Council – Small Grants Programme (UK)

Organisations such as community groups, universities and charities, etc are able to apply to the Alcohol Education and Research Council under its Small Grants Programme. Funding of up to £5,000 is available for projects that increase the capacity of individuals and organisations to deal with alcohol issues. Funding is available both for research and action orientated projects. The Alcohol Education and Research Council is very flexible in what is eligible for support and is looking for projects that are innovative and that make a difference. Applications can be made at any time.

<http://www.aerc.org.uk/grantsSmall.html>