# **Wesleyan Equality Grant Fact Sheet**

At Wesleyan we are committed to progressing on equality, diversity and Inclusion issues. We follow alignment to 5 of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs). The Wesleyan Foundation have created a new Equality Grant to help us increase our impact in these goals.

#### Aims of the Grant:

Our equality grant is aimed at driving greater equality for disadvantaged groups in our society, with groups able to apply for up to £10,000. This must be spent within 1 year of the grant being awarded, however this can be extended upon agreement.

As an inclusive grant, our goal is to help a wide variety of communities, where they face a struggle for equality such as BME, LGBTQ+, Religion, Disability, Women's or Men's groups.

This fund will create a platform to raise the voice of these groups and provide additional financial support for their mission in reducing inequalities.

# Funded activity could include, but isn't limited to:

- Mentoring
- Skill building
- Educational workshops
- Employability support
- Peer support/ Social groups
- Advocacy groups
- Health support
- Research supporting Equality & Diversity aims
- Additional equipment required for existing groups or assistive technology
- Projects which are supporting issues faced by marginalised groups

#### Areas of need highlighted by our Lived Experience Advisory Panel:

- Housing advice and support for those with Learning Disabilities
- Housing advice and support for those who've experienced domestic abuse
- Out of school activities for young people and children
- Employment support for those with Learning Disabilities
- Employment support for those with Domestic Abuse
- Projects which provide education on and reduce gang / knife crime

### **Supporting our Goals**

The Wesleyan Foundation's aims are aligned with the five United Nation Sustainable Development Goals:

- Climate Action to fund groups who work to enhance our environment and combat the effects of climate change.
- Quality Education to fund groups who remove barriers and enable access to quality education.
- Reducing Inequalities to fund groups who drive equality for disadvantaged groups including BAME, Religious and LGBTQ+ communities.
- Gender Equality to fund groups who drive equality for women, men and the nonbinary or transgender community.
- Good Health and Wellbeing to fund groups who support good health and wellbeing for communities across the UK.

# Further information can be found at: https://www.un.org/en/commonagenda/sustainable-development-goals

The Wesleyan Wellbeing Grant will contribute largely to goals of reducing inequality or gender inequality, but it could be that your project may also contribute towards other goals. When making your application please consider how your project could help us in achieving our goals.

## **Eligibility**

- Applications must specialise in delivering services for people from marginalised groups such as BME, LGBTQ+, Religious Groups, Disability, Women's or Men's groups.
- Applications must fall in to one of the following categories: registered charities, community groups, social enterprises/community interest companies, a not-for-profit company limited by guarantee, constituted community groups, an educational institution such as school or college.
- All the above must have been in existence for two years and will need to pass due diligence checks.

#### **Exclusions**

The Foundation will not fund the following:

- Individuals or sole traders, organisations who have indicated poor management of any previous grants or who present poor financial health.
- Activities that are being undertaken to offset carbon footprints or applications to buy carbon credits on behalf of that organisation.

#### **Additional Eligibility & Supporting Information**

To be eligible to apply you must be able to provide proof of:

- Your organisation / company has a management committee / board of trustees / board of directors with at least three unrelated people as members, a list of those directors will be required showing who has bank authorisation.
- A written constitution / articles / set of rules.
- A copy of your most recent annual accounts or financial records showing your organisation's balance of funds, income, and reserves.
- A bank account in the name of the organisation with at least two unrelated signatories.
- A bank statement from the last three months.
- Copies of your safeguarding policy (if you will be working with children or vulnerable adults).
- Equal Opportunities policy.
- Quotes for capital items over £300.
- To comply with Wesleyan's Anti-Money Laundering and Financial Crime Policies, we conduct due diligence checks on all charities and trustees who are recipients of grants. To perform this check, we require the names, dates of birth and trustees of all trusts associated with the charity. This information will be requested once the decision has been made to award the Grant, pending this due diligence check.

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To apply for our grant, please complete the online application form which can be found on: Wesleyan Foundation

Wesleyan Foundation Grants are administered in partnership with Heart of England Community Foundation full terms & conditions of our grants can be found here:

https://www.heartofenglandcf.co.uk/terms-and-conditions/

#### **Decision Making**

Applications are reviewed by our Community and Citizenship Manager, Senior Management and Wesleyan Foundation Panel. Unfortunately, we won't be able to fund all applications received due to application requests totalling over the available funds.

If you are unsuccessful in your application, our decision will be final. We will provide feedback as to why your application has been unsuccessful.

# Applications will close on 1 June 2024.

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