

St. James's Place Charitable Foundation Grants 2022 - Rural and Remote Communities

Information and criteria

What is the programme?

This grant programme aims to support the provision of palliative and end of life care to people living in rural and remote communities across the UK.

Hospice UK's report [Equity in Hospice and End of Life Care](#) states that most hospices and specialist palliative care units are located in or near cities, which means that remote and rural areas can face particular challenges in terms of access.

Research suggests that rural and more deprived areas were comparatively under-served compared to urban centres and more affluent areas. People living in remote and rural communities face additional difficulties in accessing specialist palliative care due to having to travel greater distances to access services. For some, this will mean it's difficult or impossible to access some services; for example, access to day care services delivered via traditional models, is only viable for people living within a reasonable travelling distance of a hospice. Travel for patients and staff can also be hampered by poor weather.

In England, 24.8% of the rural population are aged 65 and over, compared with the urban population where 16.8 per cent are 65 and over. The older population group is also growing faster in rural areas. This is likely to mean there is an increasing need for palliative care in remote and rural areas.

For the purpose of this grants programme we have used DEFRA's definition of rural areas as towns, villages, hamlets and isolated dwellings with populations under 10,000. Taken from the report: [Rural Proofing in England 2020](#)

Grants

Grants of up to £40,000 are available to support projects running over a period of 18 months. This allows for up to 3 months setup phase and 12 months project delivery – with a further 3 months to cover any unforeseen delays mid project.

The grants will enable hospices to initiate or build on programmes of work that will support palliative and end of life care to people living in rural and remote communities. This can be through a number of ways:

- Putting into practice the recommendations or findings from an organisational or local scoping exercise
- Piloting a new project based on a robust needs assessment
- Introduction of an intervention or tool
- Adapting existing activities where, through the investment of additional resources, greater impact can be achieved through adoption of new roles and approaches.
- Responding to national policy or research evidence.

Available funding

Total available funding in this grant round is £500,000. We expect to award between twelve and fifteen grants in this round.

Deadline

The deadline for applications is **17:00 on 20 June 2022**. Applicants will be informed whether or not they have been successful in early August 2022.

Eligibility criteria

Eligible organisations must be based in the UK and members of Hospice UK:

- adult hospices
- children's hospices.

NB: Hospices awarded a grant in the 2019 Breathe Easy/Lung Health programme are not eligible to apply in this round.

Due to funder restrictions this programme is not open to Marie Curie or Sue Ryder hospices.

Financial situation

If we receive more applications than we can fund and the project has been assessed and is strong enough to be in contention for a grant then, hospices' free reserve levels may be taken into account.

For the purpose of this grant programme:

- free reserves are defined as all reserves with the exception of endowed or restricted funds and any reserves represented by tangible fixed assets
- running costs are defined as total expenditure as per the most recent audited accounts.
- where the hospice operates one or more trading subsidiaries, the figures are to be based on the consolidated levels of reserves and expenditure for the group.

The proposed work

Examples of potential projects could include; the funding of a post, service model, intervention or education programme. To underpin the programme aims, we are looking to support projects such as:

- Provision of 24/7 support in rural and remote areas
- Supporting the shift to virtual service delivery models – innovative technology projects that offer support that is just as good as in-person
- New approaches to the workforce – e.g. moulded roles, combined roles
- Working in partnership with other healthcare/social care/welfare/local govt agencies to meet patient/carers needs
- Reaching particular groups within rural and remote communities, such as farming communities (or men in rural communities, who are less likely to present to services)
- Training and support for staff and volunteers around remote working and digital technologies
- The development of mobile hospice units, offering a drop-in service at various venues, information and advice on symptom management, as well as emotional, spiritual, psychological and bereavement support
- Compassionate Communities – using local links to work with community organisations to reach more people needing palliative care, build capacity and resilience within communities and provide more support for carers/family members.

Please bear in mind that we are interested in how projects will be sustainable once funding has ended.

Partnership working

We encourage new projects to be developed and implemented in partnership with others, e.g. internal colleagues/departments, hospitals, community groups, local councils or other organisations, in order that they complement existing provision and are truly integrated in systemic plans to reach more people.

Where a project is a collaboration between a hospice and another provider (e.g. NHS or social care) the lead applicant must be a full member of Hospice UK.

User Involvement

We actively encourage projects to include evidence of involvement and consultation with current and future service users at all stages of the project design, delivery and evaluation.

Organisational support

The project lead could need dedicated time to undertake the proposed work and full support from the organisation to execute necessary change to culture and practice.

The organisation will need to demonstrate that the developments will continue beyond the end of the grant period. The chief executive or equivalent at the hospice will be asked to write and sign a statement of support on hospice headed paper.

Eligible costs

For the purpose of this grant programme, we consider a 'project' to be a discrete range of activities with a clear purpose, designed to bring about change. These activities would normally incur costs over a variety of items, which could include:

- Staff salary. Funding can cover full-time or part-time staffing, or a combination of both
- Equipment
- Travel
- Staff training

Please note, if your application is successful, you will be required to attend a Project Lead Day, possibly in London - subject to COVID-19 restrictions. You should allow for the cost of travel for this as part of your budget. The Project Lead may also be expected to take part in webinars that would form part of a Community of Practice for the duration of the grant period.

It is expected that the majority of the grant would go towards implementation costs of the service. However, a range of different items should be budgeted for and all must be directly relevant to the project.

What is not eligible?

Non-eligible pieces of work include:

- activities such as undertaking a needs analysis or mapping exercise
- a continuation of an existing service – unless this application is to build on or adapt the service
- work that has already started before August 2022 – although if you ran a clearly identified pilot phase before this date, you are not precluded from making an application to develop it further
- isolated pieces of equipment not related to the proposed work
- direct salary costs for tasks not related to the project – the aim is to release the applicant from some of their duties to undertake the proposed work.
- due to funder restrictions this programme is not open to Marie Curie or Sue Ryder hospices

Application process

We encourage all potential applicants, after reading the application materials, to contact the Grants Team to informally discuss your proposal. This enables us to establish whether your planned work fits within the general requirements of the programme and offers you an opportunity to find out more about what we are looking for.

Please note that discussing your proposal with the Grants Team does not guarantee the success of your application.

Only one application per grant round will be considered from each hospice.

Full applications can be made on the online forms available on our website:
www.hospiceuk.org.uk/grants

Completing the online form

Before you can access the online application form you will be asked several questions in the eligibility filter. If answered correctly, you will be directed to the full application form.

Tip, you may find it helpful to prepare your answers in Word first. A template of the application questions is available on the website in Word version. You can use the template to 'cut and paste' your answers into the online form.

When you are filling in your application form, please give concise answers as some questions may have a limit on the number of words you can write.

In addition, if a grant is awarded, we will ask you to report back on your project by referring to the answers written on your application form, so it is important to be realistic in your answers.

Submitting the online form

Once you have completed the application form you can submit it online. To submit, go to the last page of the form and at the bottom is a 'submit' button. Once you are happy with your application, click 'submit'.

Once you have submitted your application you will receive a confirmation of submission e-mail, which will include a copy of your application.

Please attach to your application:

- a signed statement of support on hospice headed paper from your chief executive
- letters of support from partner organisations
- any other supporting information, such as a feasibility study or scoping exercise, that identifies the need for the project.

Assessment

Applications will undergo a two stage assessment process:

1. By Programme Staff

To check the application meets the basic eligibility criteria. If further information is required at this stage, a member of the programme staff will request it.

2. By the Major Grants Committee

During the second stage all applications would be considered by the Major Grants Committee, which comprises of senior hospice personnel as well as staff from Hospice UK and representatives from St. James's Place Charitable Foundation.

Applications will be assessed against set criteria, including evidence that the proposed project will:

- Be able to evidence a direct impact on the experience of **people living in rural or remote areas**, making a difference to the care of people in the last days of life and their family / informal carers.
- Address a previously identified **unmet need**, backed up by robust local evidence or published research

- Have high-level **organisational buy-in** ie evidence that this is in line with strategic direction
- Demonstrate **partnership working** with other agencies. You must submit signed letters of support from any significant partner organisations that you propose to work with
- Use reliable and **validated outcome measures** appropriate to the project that will demonstrate the difference the project makes to people who live in rural or remote areas and their families / informal carers.
- Be **sustainable** once our funding has ended.

In addition, **value for money** and the **feasibility** of the proposed work will be taken into account.

It is important that you address each point in your application. These are not listed in order of importance.

The Grants Committee will prioritise innovative projects they feel would most likely contribute to national learning and the possibility of scaling and replicating your model in other settings. To support this, your application should demonstrate how your project would build on established practice, be nationally relevant and show a clear need.

It may also be necessary to allocate funding to ensure a balanced geographical spread and project type are taken into account.

The Grants Committee will prioritise those projects that have the ability to start soon after the decision to fund has been announced.

It is likely that we will receive more applications than the amount of funding available, so the success of your application cannot be guaranteed and the committee's decision is final.

Supporting documentation for your application

You have the opportunity to submit supporting documentation to strengthen your bid. Examples of documentation you should consider including:

- evidence for why the activity proposed will have the impact we are looking for
- evidence of need for your proposed work in your locality
- information about partners and collaboration that will have an impact on the success of your project

What happens if successful?

If your application for a grant is successful then we will send an award letter, together with an acceptance form, to the chief executive at the hospice. We may contact the application sponsor personally to confirm support of your application.

The acceptance form must be signed by the application chief executive and a trustee of the applicant organisation, agreeing to the conditions of the grant. We will ask you to confirm when the project will start and when you expect to complete it.

The project should start within three months and finish within 18 months of the date that the grant was awarded. We reserve the right to withdraw funding after 18 months from the award date if it is not claimed, so it is important that you keep us up to date with progress.

Payments will be made on the submission of a grant claim form together with evidence of expenditure such as copies of paid receipts and invoices in relation to the grant.

All successful applications will need to provide an evaluation of their project at the end of the funding period.

Through the life of your grant

Hospice UK and St. James's Place Charitable Foundation are keen to see how our grants make a real difference to the work of hospices and to learn how funded projects have improved the experience for patients, and their families.

We are also interested in increasing and sharing learning from the projects that are funded through this programme. If successful in your application for funding, you will be expected to contribute to this. Activities will include:

- submitting regular progress reports (every 3 months) after your grant has been awarded
- site visits by staff from Hospice UK to evaluate progress
- access to ongoing support from the Grants Team and Clinical Team to ensure that your project goes as smoothly as possible and to offer facilitation to help resolve any issues as they arise
- sharing of ideas and knowledge and peer support through a variety of media and attendance at project lead days and related events
- Contribution of data and outcomes to project evaluation framework
- Share the learning from your project either in a peer reviewed journal, national event or publication e.g. presentation or poster
- Short updates (a template will be provided) 12 months post grant period, where appropriate, case studies.

Once your project is complete

As a condition of your grant, you will be required to send us a final report at the end of the grant funded period of your project. You will be asked for further information about what you have achieved and what impact the work has had on the experience for patients and their families.

Timetable

An outline timetable for the programme is given below.

- 20 June 2022 - Deadline for submission of applications 17:00
- Late July - Major Grants Committee meet to allocate funding
- Early August - all applicants to be notified of decisions
- Early December - First progress report due from grantees
- Project lead Day - TBC

Acknowledgements

Grant holders are required to acknowledge St. James's Place Charitable Foundation and Hospice UK in any information that is circulated about the project. This includes e.g. conference presentations, reports, publications and articles that arise from the work.

St. James's Place Charitable Foundation

The St. James's Place Charitable Foundation is the philanthropic arm of St. James's Place Wealth Management. Since 1992 the Foundation has been making a positive and lasting difference to people's lives by awarding grants to charities supporting children and young people, cancer support, mental health and hospices to assist them in the incredible work they do every day.

Hospice UK

Hospice UK is the national charity working for those experiencing dying, death and bereavement. We work for the benefit of people affected by death and dying, collaborating with our hospice members and other partners who work in end of life care.

Further information

Please visit our website or contact the grants team if you have any questions or if you need further information:

E-mail: Grants@hospiceuk.org

Website: www.hospiceuk.org/grants

Telephone: 020 7520 8277

Address: Grants Team, Hospice UK, 34–44 Britannia Street, London, WC1X 9JG