

UK Community Foundations

Community First survey report

Rocket Science UK Ltd

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Summary of key points

1. We received **43 responses from the 44 Community Foundations [CFs] that have participated in the Community First programme** (the exception being Tees Valley Community Foundation), giving us almost complete details of the volume and value of Community First grants awarded.
2. Across England, Community First grant awards each year have **increased in £ value** from £1.05m in 2012-13 to **£5.98m in 2016-17**
3. The **average amount awarded** by each CF in Community First grants each year has also increased from £47.6k in 2012-13 to **£147.3k in 2017-18**
4. The **total number** of Community First awards increased from **460 in 2012-13** and peaked in **2015-16 at 2,284**
5. The **three most common themes for Community First awards** were *(i) health and well-being, (ii) education, employability and work, (iii) community cohesion*
6. The total value of Community First endowments held by all CFs was **£144.3m in 2017-18**
7. **88% of CFs** (36 out of 41 responses to this question) felt that the Government match was a **strong incentive for philanthropic giving**
8. **63% of CFs** (26 out of 41) felt that the biggest attraction for Community First donors (over and above the match) was the **ability to advise where their funding was going**
9. **92% of CFs** (38 out of 41) felt that the Community First programme **helped develop relationships with new donors and / or a mixture of new and existing donors**
10. **63% of CFs** (26 out of 41) felt that Community First **did not help identify or develop new funding themes**
11. **90% of CFs** (36 out of 40) felt that **more specific funding themes within Community First would not have been helpful**
12. **78% of CFs** (31 out of 40) felt the **length of the challenge fund was 'about right'**
13. Key themes around the **impact of Community First** included: *(i) attraction of significant new donors; (ii) higher profile for CFs; (iii) increased grant-making activity and endowment growth; (iv) providing sustainable funding; (v) impact on lives of disadvantaged individuals*
14. **78% of CFs** (31 out of 40) felt that **another endowment match challenge would be better received than last time**
15. **Suggestions for improvements to a future match challenge** included: *(i) a need for simplicity; (ii) greater flexibility; (iii) limit/encourage certain types of donors or funds; (iv) make it a 100% match; (v) change to annual allocations; (vi) better promotion; (vii) changes to investment approach.*

Introduction

Rocket Science UK Ltd were commissioned by UKCF in January 2018 to carry out a survey of the 44 Community Foundations in England that have participated in the Community First programme. The survey was intended to gather evidence of the scale and scope of social action supported by the Community First matched endowment fund.

The survey was sent to CFs in January 2018 and asked for information covering three main topics:

- Details of grant making activity by financial year and category
- Opinions on the rationale and impact of the programme
- A request for a case study of a successful local project supported with Community First funding.

Responses to the survey were provided by representatives from the following Community Foundations (43 out of the 44 CFs, although the response rates for individual survey questions varied):

Bedfordshire and Luton Community Foundation	Hertfordshire Community Foundation
Berkshire Community Foundation	Kent Community Foundation
Cambridgeshire Community Foundation	Leeds Community Foundation
Cheshire Community Foundation	Leicestershire and Rutland Community Foundation
Community Foundation for Calderdale	Lincolnshire Community Foundation
Community Foundation for Lancashire & Merseyside	London Community Foundation
Community Foundation for Surrey	Milton Keynes Community Foundation
Community Foundation serving Tyne & Wear and Northumberland	Norfolk Community Foundation
Cornwall Community Foundation	Northamptonshire Community Foundation
County Durham Community Foundation	Nottinghamshire Community Foundation
Cumbria Community Foundation	One Community, the Kirklees Community Foundation
Devon Community Foundation	Oxfordshire Community Foundation
Dorset Community Foundation	Quartet Community Foundation (West of England)
East London Community Foundation	Somerset Community Foundation
Essex Community Foundation	South Yorkshire Community Foundation
Forever Manchester	Staffordshire Community Foundation
Foundation Derbyshire	Suffolk Community Foundation
Gloucestershire Community Foundation	Sussex Community Foundation
Hampshire & Isle of Wight Community Foundation	Two Ridings Community Foundation
Heart of Bucks	Wiltshire Community Foundation
Heart of England Community Foundation	Worcestershire Community Foundation
Herefordshire Community Foundation	

The only Community Foundation from which no survey response was received was Tees Valley Community Foundation.

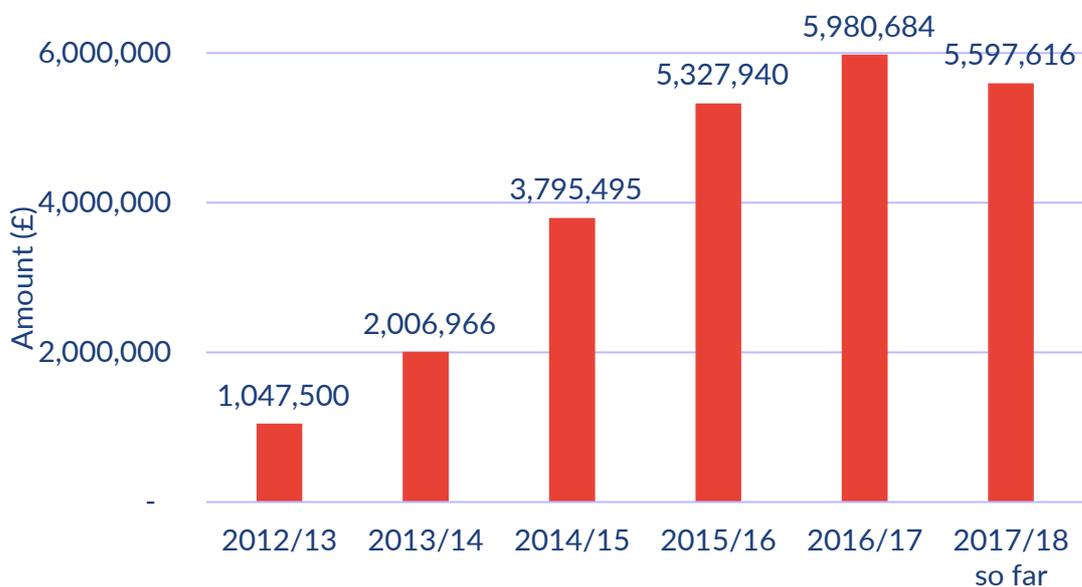
1. Amount and number of grants

1.1 Amount made in grants

Community Foundations were asked to provide detail on the total amount (£) made in grants from Community First funds in each of the years from 2012/13 to the present. **(NB – there were 43 responses in 2016/17 but only 38 in 2017/18, explaining the lower total for this financial year):**

Figure 1: Amount made in Community First grants by year

The value of Community First awards increased year on year to a maximum of almost £6m



1.2 Average amount of grants made by Community Foundations

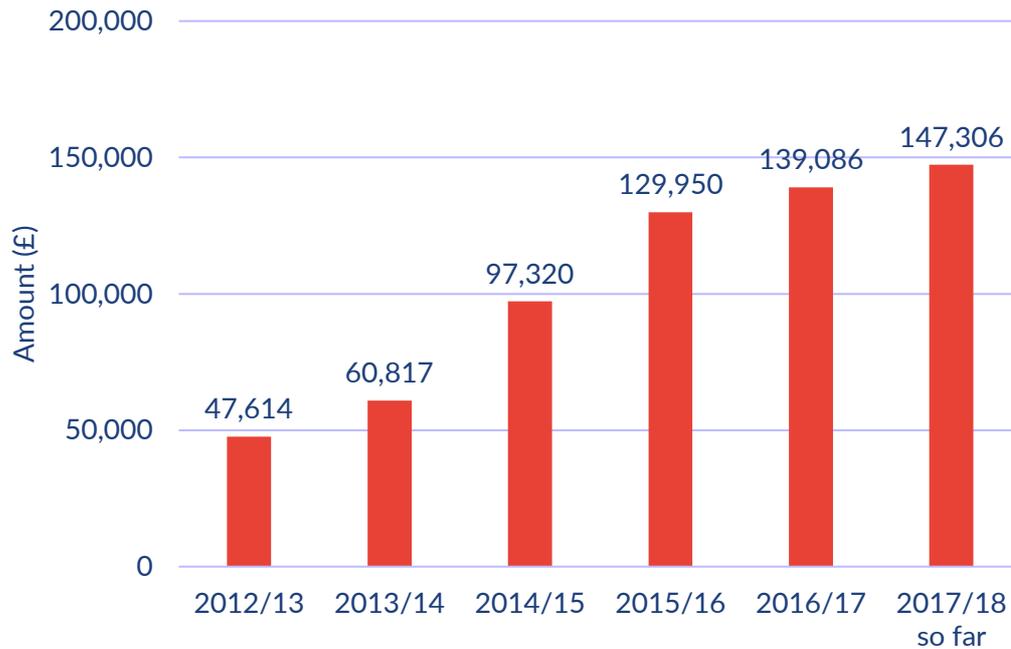
The below graph (Figure 2) shows the average amount made in grants from Community First funds for each of the years from 2012/13 to the present.¹ The average amount has increased year on year to an average of £147.3k in the 2017/18 financial year so far.

¹ Averages were calculated based on the number of responses to the question i.e. where 38 out of 43 respondents detailed the amount made in grants in 2014/15, the average was calculated by dividing the total amount made in grants across Community Foundations by 38.

The greatest amount made by a single Community Foundation in grants from Community First funds is £839,754 by Lancashire and Merseyside Community Foundation in the current 2017/18 financial year.

Figure 2: Average amount awarded by each Community Foundation by year

The average value of Community First grants awarded by each CF has increased each year to almost £150k in 2017-18

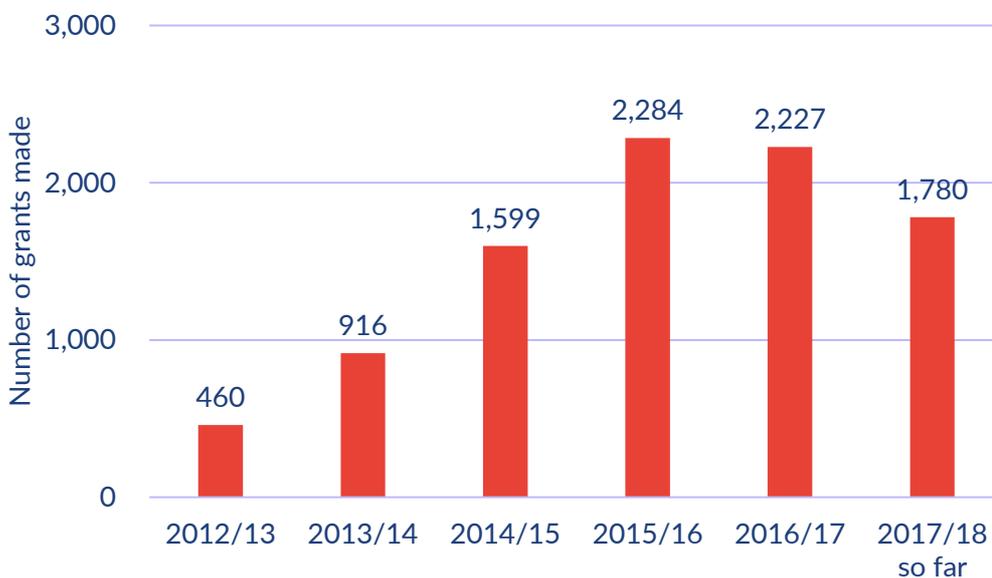


1.3 Total number of grants made

Community Foundations were asked to detail the total number of grants made in each of the years from 2012/13 to the present, as shown in Figure 3 below. **The lower number for 2017/18 is partly due to a slightly lower response rate (39 responses in 2017/18 and 42 in 2016/17), but mainly because the data was collected in Jan-Feb 2018 before the end of the financial year.**

Figure 3: Total number of Community First grants by year

The total number of grants made across all CFs was highest in 2015-16



The largest number of awards made in a year was by Lancashire & Merseyside Community Foundation, which made 194 awards in 2016/17.

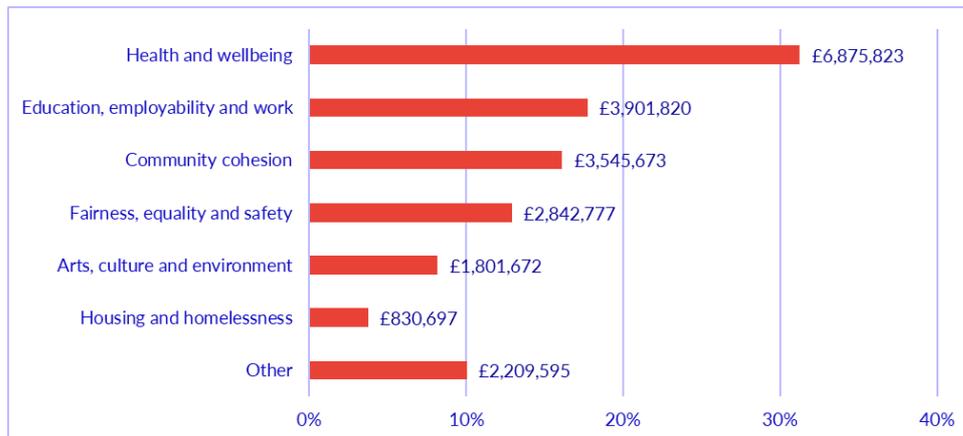
2. Amount and number of grants by category

2.1 Amount of grants

Community Foundations were asked to specify (for the Community First programme as a whole) the overall grant amounts by category.

Figure 4: £ amount of grants by category

Over 30% of grants by value were made in the 'health and wellbeing' category...

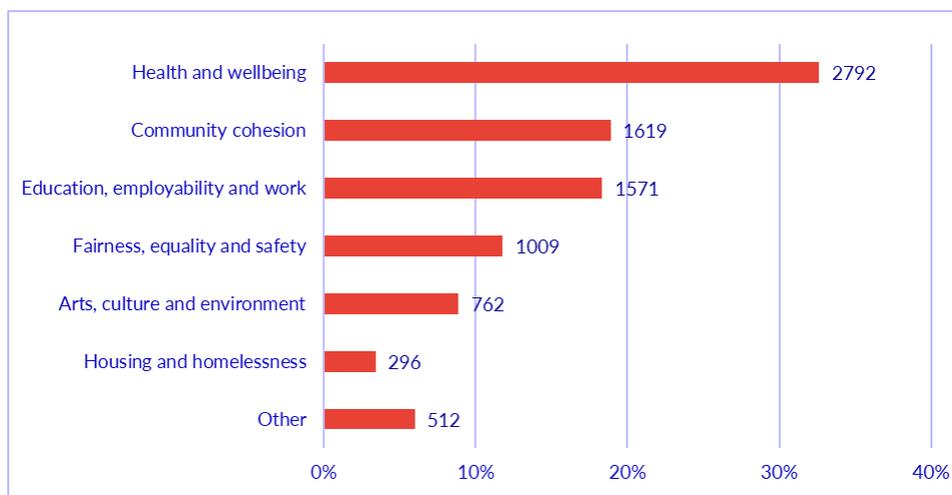


2.2 Number of grants

Community Foundations were asked to specify the number of grants made under each of the above categories:

Figure 5: Number of grants by category

...And similarly over 30% of grants by number went to 'health and wellbeing' projects



Other categories of spending

An additional £2,209,595 of spending was detailed in the 'Other' category. This was divided between 512 detailed grants. While some respondents described spending and number of grants by additional category, others only entered the total spend amount and total number of grants under 'Other'. Detailed spending under 'Other' included the following categories:

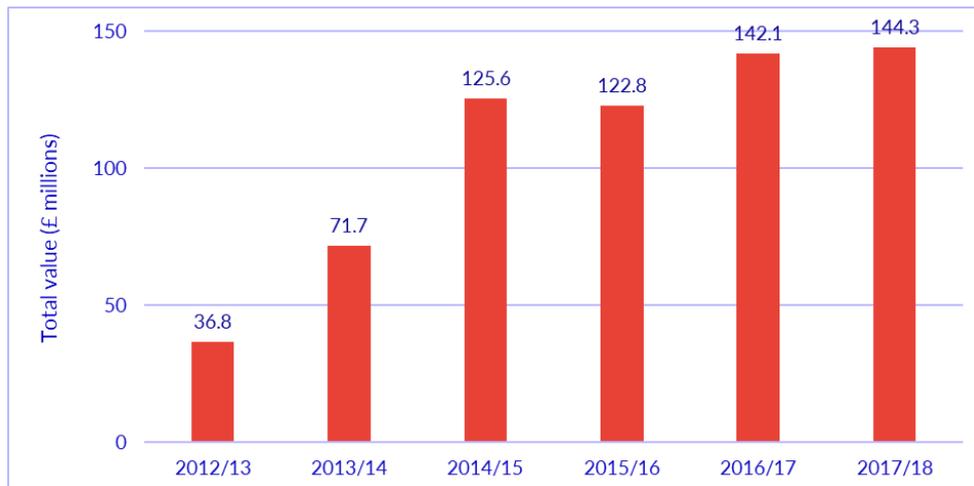
- Caring and support
- Sport
- Crime
- Substance abuse
- Disability and access
- Rural and environmental
- Poverty and disadvantage
- Mental health and counselling
- Advice and mentoring
- Youth
- Community support
- Social justice
- Events

3. Community First endowments

41 out of the 43 responses provided information on the size of the endowment. The total value of all Community First endowments held by Community Foundations has now reached £144.3m².

Figure 6: Total value of Community First endowments (£millions)

The total value of Community First endowments is now over £140m



The average value of a Community First endowment held by a Community Foundation has similarly increased over time:

Figure 7: Average value of Community First endowment (£millions)

Average value of a Community First endowment is now over £3.5m



² Only 35 out of 41 responses provided information on the size of the endowment in 2017/18. For the six responses where no 2017/18 endowment size information was provided, we used the 2016/17 information instead, which is likely to be a cautious estimate of the present value.

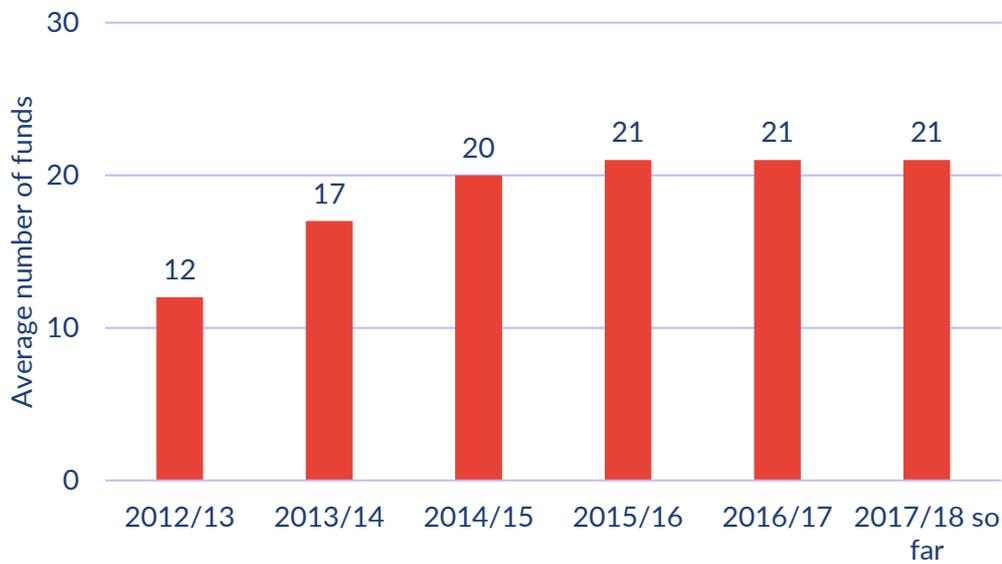
The largest Community First endowment held by a Community Foundation is Norfolk Community Foundation, where the endowment is now valued at £11.99m.

Number of funds in which the endowment was held

The number of funds in which the endowment is held increased over the first few years of the programme and now stands at an average of 21 funds.

Figure 8: Number of funds in which the endowment is held

The average number of funds in which the endowment is held increased in the first few years of the Community First programme



4. Strategy with regard to drawn down excess gains

4.1 Kept in cash

27 Community Foundations explained their strategy with regard to drawn down excess gains when kept in cash:

Community Foundations never have drawn down excess gains e.g.:

- “We have never drawn down excess gains”
- “We do not draw down excess gains.”

Drawn down excess gains used for grants e.g.:

- “Any draw down has been used for granting”
- “Used for grant making”
- “Net drawdown (after admin contribution) is spent on grants as soon as possible”
- “We notify donors of available spend and it is used for grants”
- “50% of gains are drawn down to use for grant making in the next year. The other 50% is held for the following year of grant making”
- “Realise gains when capital gains exceed RPI to support grant making.”

Donor or fund holders make decision e.g.:

- “Decision made by donor”
- “We offer fund holders the option to drawdown the maximum they can, but usually with a recommendation that sustains the value of their fund. For funds where we do not have an active donor to consult we usually cap the drawdown to balance grants with capital appreciation”
- “Our Finance and Investment Group reviews the cumulative Net Indexed Gain each year and provides a recommendation to our Donors in terms of draw down for grant-making – However, some Donors will choose to draw down more – or less – or none of the recommended amount. It is a Donor decision in each case”
- “In the case of Community First endowments, capital growth in excess of RPI can be transferred to Revenue account at the discretion of each endowment fund holder.”

Additional points

- “Income received our total return income of 4.5%, i.e. this year 0.5% has been liquidated for grant-making”
- “We take out enough as cash to top up each fund's total income to 5%”

- “We drawdown a total of 5% overall, made up of dividend income plus a proportion of RPI gains (approved by board)”
- “We only keep in cash the difference between the income received and our total return income of 4.5%, i.e. this year 0.5% has been liquidated for grant-making.”

4.2 Reinvested in CCLA COIF funds

22 Community Foundations explained their strategy with regard to drawn down excess gains when reinvested in CCLA COIF funds:

Dependent on donor or fund

- “The focus has been in growing the capital and the only draw downs have been at the donors' request”
- “One fund does this in order to grow the fund”
- “Decision made by donor.”

Excess gains left in fund

- “It is our intention this year to leave the EG in fund”
- “Any unrealised excess gains are left in the Community First Funds.”

Additional points

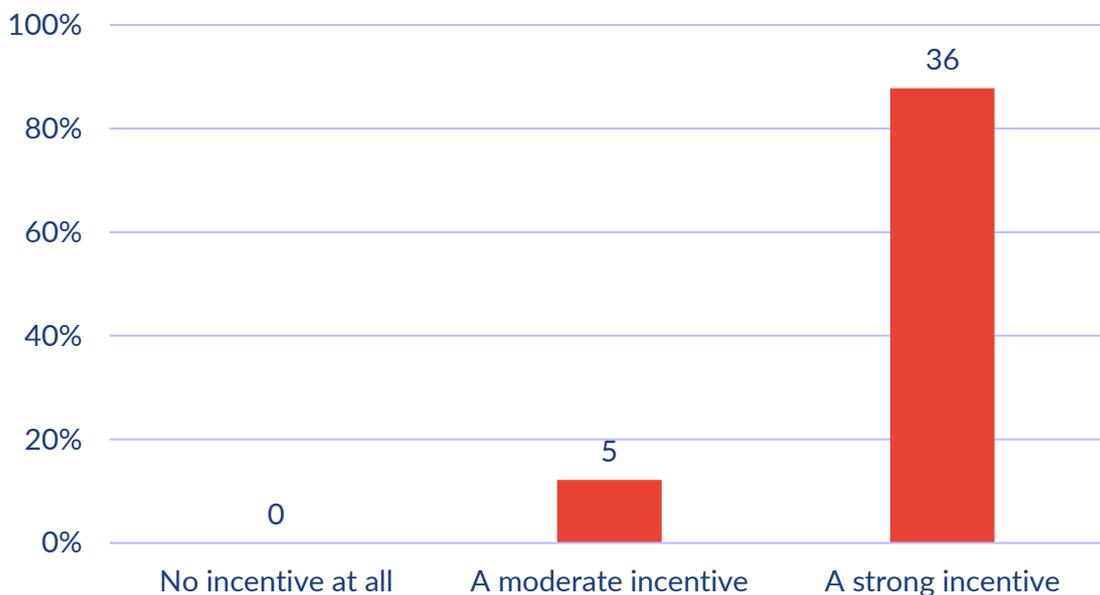
- “Reinvested in CF endowment apportioned to individual funds”
- “This is a proportion which 'mirrors' the CF funds but enables us to draw from them more frequently to manage optimum investment yield/performance”
- “Excess gains to be banked for future grant making following discussion with originating donors”
- “Any cash would be reinvested in line with the CF guidelines”
- “In 2015 – trustees elected for reinvestment to grow endowment and build sustainable long term grant giving (after donor and panel consultation)”
- “Whatever is left after the top up (as mentioned above) it is reinvested in a non-Community First fund with CCLA”
- “We retain the surplus RPI units in a parallel accounts (COIF income units), giving us flexibility if the donor wants to conduct extra grant making”
- “Draw down of excess gains too small to impact grant making so held in the COIF fund”
- “Whilst 2017 RPI gains trf to COIF Funds a corresponding match of OCF cash was TFR to donor funds for grant making”
- “This year, for the first time since inception of Community First, we have taken the option to drawdown the excess RPI. We have reinvested it with CCLA to give us the option to drawdown the difference between the income received and our total return approach to maintain our grant-making.”

5. Government match

Community Foundations were asked about the extent to which they felt the government match was an incentive for philanthropic giving. 88% (36 out of 41 responses to this question) felt it was a strong incentive. No respondents felt that the government match was not an incentive for philanthropic giving:

Figure 9: Respondents' views on whether the government match was an incentive for giving

Over 85% of CFs felt that the government match was a strong incentive to philanthropic giving



6. Attraction for Community First donors

Community Foundations were asked about what they felt was the biggest attraction for Community First donors (over and above match):

Figure 10: Respondents' views on biggest attraction for donors (over and above match)

Over 60% of CFs felt that the ability to advise where their funding was going was the biggest attraction (over and above the government match funding) for Community First donors



Those who selected 'Other' expressed:

- "The ability to choose where their funding is distributed (we advise)"
- "Ability to support key causes in the county"
- "Know their donation was being matched so more to charity"
- "Long term approach to grant making."

7. Using the match to fundraise and develop relations with donors

7.1 Examples of best practice around using match to fundraise

Community Foundations were asked to explain any examples of best practice around using the match to fundraise:

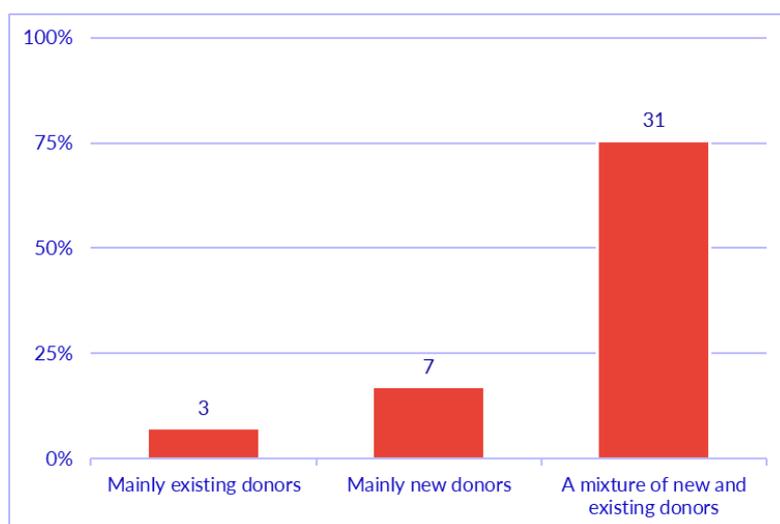
- “Targeting existing donors to mature ‘Acorn’ funds”
- “Just tell everyone!”
- “Development of area funds (e.g. local authority areas)”
- “The Match Challenge provided a strong incentive for all ‘core donor markets’:
 - High Net Worth individuals and their families
 - People leaving legacies and bequests
 - Dormant and inactive charitable trusts”
- “Local society/community clubs being able to raise funding from larger funders (such as Lottery, Council) due to being able to show investment of 'belief' for sustainability, growth and reaching the local communities needs”
- “Main promotional idea to attract donors was that the donation would be "invested in perpetuity and the income gained every year will be used for charitable grant making". This attracted families with the idea of handing the fund down to their children for future grant making”
- “One donor combined match funding and gift aid to ‘really increase their donation”
- “We used it to kick-start Women in Philanthropy, a £500 per year membership fund of currently 60 members, led by a voluntary all-female steering group, supporting 3 local charities per year, and constantly recruiting new (mainly HNW) members via events”
- “We held dinners for identified prospects hosted by our President the Lord Lieutenant of Oxfordshire and highlighted the potential leverage and how those funds would be used to the benefit of Oxfordshire. A competitive streak was an obvious motivator to rank against achievements of neighbouring counties etc”
- “An existing donor with a focus on mental well-being used Community First to grow his £50k fund progressively to £250k”
- “An existing donor with previous gifts of £25,000 was inspired to make a donation of £250,000”
- “It is our in-depth local knowledge and mapping of private wealth that allows us to approach the right potential donors”
- “We were able to engage local media to promote the match for us which identified some new people.”

7.2 Developing relationships with new or existing donors

Respondents were asked if the Community First programme helped to develop relationships with new donors or whether it mainly encouraged giving from existing donors. 76% of respondents (36 out of 41) felt that it encouraged a mixture of new and existing donors:

Figure 11: Respondents' views on whether Community First mainly encouraged new or existing donors

Over three quarters of CFs felt that Community First helped develop relations with a mix of existing and new donors



Community Foundations were asked to provide any examples of substantial new donors attracted, or partnerships formed, through the Community First programme. 31 respondents provided an answer to this question. Examples offered include:

- “One donation which was matched by 50% in 2013 under the Community First programme which allowed for a much larger donation to Readibus, a local charity which provides transport services”
- “Donor X donated £100,000 on the basis of being matched”
- “We secured 8 new relationships these included 3 private family funds, 2 new corporate funds and 3 trust dissolutions/transfers”
- “Community First created our first >£1m fund with a donor who is now (without a match) planning on donating a further £1m”
- “One fund was set up by very influential philanthropist who has helped facilitate our 'Funders Forums' which have consequently created more funding for community projects, especially for NEETs”
- “We received £1 million donation from a husband and wife to establish a fund with a focus on young people leaving care.”

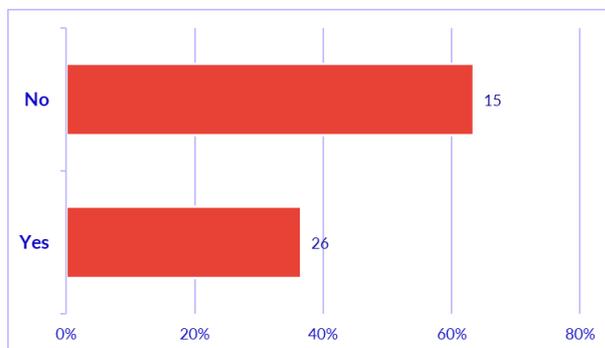
8. Funding themes

8.1 The identification or development of new funding themes through Community First

Respondents were asked whether Community First helped their Community Foundation to identify or develop new funding themes (e.g. Health and wellbeing, Housing and homelessness, Arts, culture and the environment etc). 37% felt that it did, while 63% felt it did not.

Figure 12: Respondents views on whether Community First helped identify or develop new funding themes for their CF

Over 60% of respondents felt that Community First did not help identify or develop new funding themes for their CF



Those who answered 'Yes' were asked to explain how Community First had helped in the identification or development of new funding themes:

Establishing funds for a particular area:

- "It would appear that donors were encouraged to donate per geographical area"
- "We have also been able to establish funds for specific areas of the county"
- "We established funds for each of our local authority areas."

New themes:

- "Homelessness is a focus of two of our Community First Funds, which hitherto had not been a specific focus for our funds"
- "Support for older people in N Cumbria (Abbeyfield) and rural communities fund (Carrs)"
- "We are now engaged with supporting arts projects"
- "Education, training, employment: two new matched funds of significant value support education and training opportunities for young people, leading to improved employment prospects."

Attracting a dormant trust

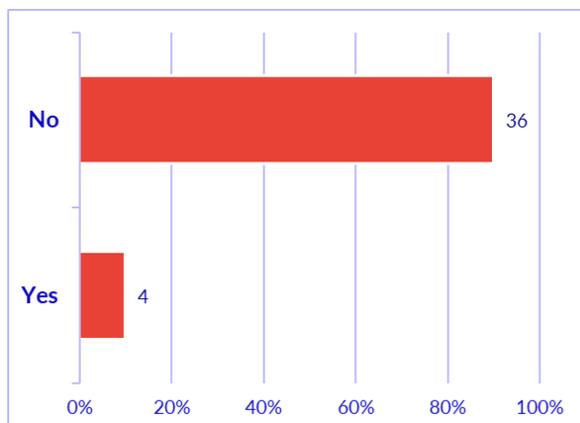
- “CF attracted a substantial dormant Educational Trust to transfer to DCF which enabled us to do educational work for the first time.”

8.2 More specific funding themes within Community First

Respondents were asked whether more specific funding themes with Community First would have been helpful:

Figure 13: Respondents' views on whether more specific funding themes would have been helpful

90% of CFs felt that more specific funding themes within Community First **would not** have been helpful



8.2.1 Views of those who thought more specific funding themes would have been helpful

Those who felt specific funding themes within Community First **would have** been useful explained:

- “It would help in the administration but would need some flexibility to address the wishes of donors”
- “Potentially - we would like the flexibility to be able to apply any match to areas of strategic interest for Norfolk to strengthen investment in our evidenced priorities”
- “A theme around "continued" long term, or year on year funding for smaller charitable/voluntary groups could be valuable.”

8.2.2 Views of those who thought more specific funding themes would not have been helpful

Those who felt that specific funding themes within Community First **would not have** been useful explained:

A need for local flexibility

- “Need local flexibility - to tie in/complement what is already being done”
- “We have varying needs across the UK”
- “Local priorities need to be front and centre and the ability for CFs and our donors to respond to our evidence-based needs is paramount.”

Flexibility necessary for donors

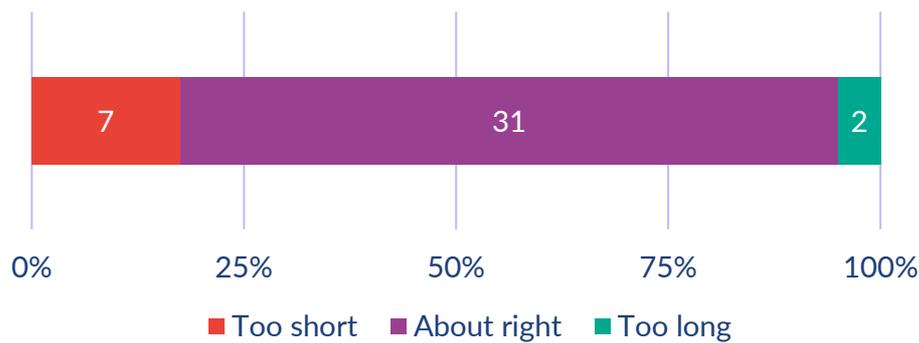
- “The service which we offer is bespoke and our donors enjoy being involved in their local philanthropy”
- “We are not fundraising for a cause but to respond to donors’ philanthropic wishes and matching them to a range of community needs. The broader the better!”
- “We wouldn't be able to attract all of our donors if the funding themes would have been prescribed or too specific.”

9. Length of the challenge

Community Foundations were asked to reflect on whether the length of the challenge was about right or whether a longer or shorter period would have been preferable. 78% felt that the length of the challenge was 'About right', while 18% felt it was 'Too short' and 5% felt it was 'Too long':

Figure 14: Respondents' views on the length of the challenge

Over 75% of CFs felt that the length of the challenge was 'about right'



9.1 Views of those who felt the challenge was too short

Those who felt the challenge was '**Too short**' explained:

Time taken to develop new donors

- "Often it takes years to convert a potential supporter into fund holder - even with potential match funding"
- "It always takes time to develop new donors"
- "The match itself is not a big enough reason for many donors to give, and relationships need to be cultivated."

Time taken to set up

- "Took time to get up and running for a small Foundation."

9.2 Views of those who felt the challenge was about the right length

Those who felt the challenge was '**About right**' explained:

The combination of needing to have enough time for the campaign to get going but also needing a deadline to incentivise donors

- “If people think it’s always going to be there, it can slow down commitment - and our HNW groups tend to take their time”
- “Deadline helps with sales
- “Good length to enable the development of newer prospective donors, but timely enough that it incentivised commitments from donors.”

Information needs to be available before the launch of the challenge

- “The terms of the Challenge need to be clarified and agreed with the funder well in advance of the launch of the Challenge so individual Community Foundations have sufficient preparation time before the Launch.”

9.3 Views of those who felt the challenge was too long

Those who felt the challenge was '**Too long**' explained:

- “18-24 months - enough to raise awareness - short enough to prompt action”
- “The first year was extremely difficult as it took so long to get off the ground and CFs had a minimum number of months to find donor monies when the programme actually started. Three full years is a more sensible length of time.”

10. Impact of Community First

Respondents were asked three questions about the impact of Community First:

1. In your opinion, how has Community First contributed to social action at a local level (this can be in terms of philanthropy or grants made)?
2. In your opinion, what impact has this level of investment made on your local community?
3. What has been the overall effect on your Community Foundation of the Community First Programme?

10.1 Contribution of Community First to social action at a local level

Respondents expressed a range of views which we have categorised as follows:

Attraction of significant donors

- “There were eight new donors who set up substantial funds. Those who already had endowments used Community First to make a substantial increase to their endowments”
- “Inspired a number of local Donors to engage in local philanthropy”
- “It has engaged new philanthropists who might otherwise not have done so”
- “The programme has inspired 35 different donors to set up their own funds and many of these have added to their funds since.”

Higher profile of Community Foundation

- “Gave CCF more critical mass - higher profile, so more groups know about CCF”
- “Community First established our credibility and 'voice' with local partners and philanthropists”
- “The programme helped to provide a 'platform', which we used to raise the profile of the foundation and the work we were undertaking across Kirklees.”

Grant making activity

- “The figures speak for themselves - we increased our grant making”
- “The grant making has supported in the region of 30,000 beneficiaries and organisations with 1700 volunteers. Whilst 80% of charitable donations go to only 3% of national charities, 82% of OUR funds were made to organisations with an income of

less than £100k and 70% to those with an income <£50k a year. Precision grant making to those who need it, make best use of it and achieve significant local impact”

- “Boosted amount of grants available to group e.g. bigger grants and more in number”
- “Many more grants have been made to local charity and community groups via the Community Foundation than would have been made without the match funding, and they have been made at time when they are desperately needed due to local and central government cuts.”

Sustainable funding for social projects

- [The match funding has] “generated a sustainable source of funding to meet needs as they change over time”
- “It has made a significant difference in supporting grassroots charities [...] at a local level from a source that is sustainable.”

Reduce reliance on statutory funding

- “It gave us the opportunity to begin to break away from reliance on statutory funding (we have historically given out grants on behalf of our county council).”

10.2 Impact of investment on the local community

Respondents expressed the following views:

Sustainable funding

- “It has created a long-term sustainable source of funding”
- “This giving on an annual basis is a huge and lasting and flexible resource”
- “The creation of a local, permanent, endowed resource for local communities is invaluable”
- “Having the endowment means that the money is available in perpetuity so you can plan and fund activities for multiple years”
- “Because of the in-perpetuity nature of the programme, it has and will have made an immense difference particularly at a time when public sector services are retracting.”

Impact on lives of local individuals

- “Tremendous positive impact on the lives of local individuals – we have so many case studies of the difference made by Community First Fund grants”
- “Not only does our funding directly address disadvantaged beneficiaries, it often (perhaps always) connects people in a place to one another, reduces isolation, stimulated volunteering and creates a sense of community pride and belonging.”

Responding to poverty or deprivation

- “The new funds created through Community First enhanced our capacity to respond to the need and also to support preventative projects”
- “It is hard to quantify but the more grants we can distribute into the community the more people we can help who live in need and deprivation.”

Grant making activity

- “I doubt if we would have been able to deliver this level of grant making without Com First”
- “The number of grants certainly went up and more funding flowed through us”
- “It is only five years since the Community First programme started, yet it has already provided £1.3m in grants to the community.”

Engagement of donors

- “All the donors are fully engaged in the grant decisions and the impact they make.”

10.3 Overall effect of the Community First Programme on the Community Foundation

Respondents expressed:

More security or stability

- “Increased the endowment giving more security to the Foundation”
- “Every pound of endowment that we raise helps to make the Foundation more sustainable.”

Increased profile

- “Enabling more promotion and publicity about the work of the Foundation”
- “It has increased our profile”
- “It has improved our profile as a 'Community Leader”
- “It has helped boost our endowment, our reputation and our profile.”

New relationships developed

- “New key relationships”
- “New donor relationships secured and now well-established”
- “It helped us to engage with new donors.”

Endowment growth

- “Further endowment growth”
- “The Community First Programme (combined with the Grassroots endowment challenge) enabled us to attract significant donations into endowment for the first time”
- “It helped GCF to grow the endowment by an additional £6m.”

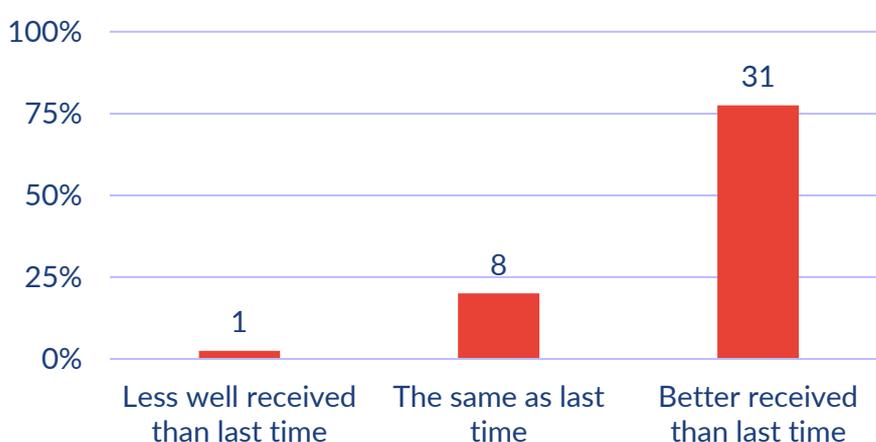
Contribution to grant-making

- “Our current endowment is £13m of which C first is over £2m so it is a significant contributor to our grant making and admin fees”
- “Development of grant programmes in new vital areas especially a) education, training, employability skills, and b) work with isolated communities to reduce rural loneliness and develop support networks”
- “This year 17/18 we will have our biggest grant making year to date of £1.3 million.”

11. Views on a future endowment match challenge

Community Foundations were asked whether, in terms of the views of potential philanthropic donors, they felt another endowment match challenge would be less well received, better received or received the same as last time. 78% (31 out of 40 responses) felt that another endowment match challenge would be better received:

Figure 15: Respondents' views on how another endowment match challenge fund would be received
78% of Community Foundations felt that another endowment match challenge would be better received than last time (total 40)



Respondents were asked to provide detail about how a future government match programme could be improved. 34 respondents provided an answer to this question. Respondents expressed:

A need for simplicity

- “Needs to be as simple as possible for donors and CF's to operate. From our perspective the restrictions on CCLA and the drawdown has simplified things”
- “The complexity about how the investments are held is a drawback with the Com First scheme.”

Greater flexibility

- “No constraints around investment”
- “Greater flexibility in terms of eligible donors, eligible grant recipients and eligible themes etc., thereby allowing the local community (donors and applicants) to inform the process and ensure that the programme meets local need rather than national agendas”
- “Less prescription, more freedom to decide locally upon long term priorities.”

- “Avoid specifying match themes - in our experience, donors are either wary of, or resistant to, areas that they view (rightly or wrongly) as being the prime responsibility of government.”

Limit/encourage certain types of donors or funds

- “We don't want tons and tons of small named funds which cost a fortune to service. We want a smaller number of larger and preferably unrestricted funds. So we have thought about how we segment our market and have a 'scaled offer' to favour the sort of donations we want with flexibility on what CFs can take for core cost. Higher rate for named funds which take more work”
- “A tiered match funding scheme would help us to incentivise donors to be more strategic. We would offer 50% match funding to create new endowment, but it would be great to offer 100% match funding if they create an endowed fund that tackles key issues set by local CFs or UKCF”
- “Several of the smaller CF funds have had no impact and have not grown over time, these have proven to be time consuming to deal with. Some sort of spend down rule on endowments that have not grown by a certain point in time would be valuable e.g. not > than £50,000 after 5 years”
- “Look to introduce other available assets that could provide source of cash e.g. pensions with over £1m in assets liable to Higher Rate tax relief, could these be used to gift free of tax for community philanthropy. OCF are currently exploring with Grant Thornton”
- “From our experience, there may be more value in focusing match funding on new donors and encouraging engagement with key local themes to ensure that the donor relationship and resulting fund creates a meaningful long term benefit.”

Make it a 100% match programme

- “100% match would be ideal”
- “It should be more generous - with a 100% match (and Gift Aid matched under the same terms)”
- “Make it a 100% match program.”

Change to annual allocations

- “Annual allocation should be flexible between years and/or be structured so there is a build-up rather than be even over the match period”
- “Annual allocations were problematic as from memory we were not able to raise all of our match in one year but exceeded it in others.”

Better promotion

- “Comprehensive marketing reaching out to all types of donors, TV campaign, Ads in specialist and broadsheet press”
- “It could be promoted more effectively by the government, we spent many hours convincing potential donors that this wasn't a 'con'”
- “National publicity to boost local promotion and pitches”
- “Consider allocating core funding to each community foundation for local campaigns and publicity (?1% of matched funding achieved).”

Changes to investment approach

- “I am not at all supported of the terms under which the money is managed by CCLA. the inability for us to set a considered distribution in line with our policy has been the biggest cause of tension for community first. We are ONLY able to take our fees out of the distribution that ccla provides. This means there are modest sums available for Grant making. For example on a community first fund that was valued £655,686 march 16, the return from ccla over the year to March 17 was £27165. Our fees are based on 1.5 % end of the market value at 31st of March so for the year to March 17 they amounted to £9,835 The net amount of available for Grant making is therefore £17,330 Had the £665k fund been held with the rest of our non community first Endowed investment (managed by Rathbone's) our distribution policy would have allowed for a drawdown of £32,784 (5% of £655k) plus our fees of £9,835
- “Allow CFs to invest monies in line with their normal investment policies not through a central manager - at least for CFs with a demonstrable track record in endowment management 3. Provide some development support element, at least for smaller/less well resourced CFs so they can maximise the opportunity”
- “The nature of the Community First investment model confused donors as it did not match our existing model. We feel that allowing Foundations to manage the investments and align any future programme to their current approach will make the scheme easier to manage”
- “By trusting Community Foundation's to use their existing Investment Managers and to allow donors to add to their existing funds. Some existing donors do not like the complexity of having to establish a new fund and sign new agreements for every Government match scheme, which may have slightly different criteria.”

Appendix: Case studies

29 respondents provided case studies of successful Community First projects.

Community Foundation	Case study
<p>Berkshire Community Foundation</p>	<p>Theme: Health and wellbeing Need: There is an ageing population and people can become disconnected and lonely, with 13% of people aged 75+ say they are always or often lonely it is important that they have somewhere to go to meet new people. Activity: The 'loneliness buster' initiative; 'friendship trips' to local venues such as cafes to encourage people who are elderly, with restricted mobility and limited means who are lonely or have no one to go out with to meet new people. Some people on these trips can volunteer to help others to make them feel like they're more involved in the organisation. Personal story of change: Mrs L: <i>"I used to visit my son in Hong Kong but I can't get there anymore because it is such a pain to travel to. My daughter lives in Spain. I don't get out much now apart from cancer support. Thank you so much. It was very, very good. There was just the 4 of us sat talking. Talking about holidays, it soon went. I hope I'm free every time."</i> Mrs P described how after losing her husband in April, her world shrunk and she became quite down and lonely. She has described how being asked if she would volunteer for this project gave her a sense of purpose and fulfilment and the companionship both of researching a venue with another volunteer and going on a friendship trip has been of great value. She has described it as "brilliant". She was very thorough in her venue research, checking out the toilets for example for access and hand grips and engaging with the venue manager about the service required, noise levels, seating arrangements and so on and securing good commitments in this regard. It is clear that her self-esteem and confidence have been considerably boosted and she wants to continue to be involved Outcomes achieved: The friendship trips enriched the lives of the people who went on them and the project is set to continue in the future.</p>
<p>Calderdale</p>	<p>Theme: Health & wellbeing Need: The long summer holiday from school often conjures up images of endless warm days, more family time and lots of opportunities for children to play with their friends. For many vulnerable and low-income families, the reality is rather different. For them, the summer holiday also means the loss of a much-needed free school meal for each child in the family and a long period of increased financial pressure to pay for additional food and activities. Research</p>

	<p>by Kellogg's reveals that 39 percent of teachers notice children coming back after the holidays with signs of weight loss.</p> <p>Activity: This summer, thanks to a Community Foundation grant of £1660 a Holiday Kitchen provided meals and educational opportunities to children living in Mixenden and Ovenden. Each Holiday Kitchen session lasted 4 hours and was made possible thanks to the grant and volunteers who contributed 162 hours to deliver the sessions.</p> <p>Outcomes achieved: 262 lunches were served on site over the 5 weeks the project was running. Families took home an equivalent number of meals as 'leftovers.' 87 take home bags containing a recipe card and ingredients provided 348 meals – providing families with the main meal for two days a week over 5 weeks of the summer holiday.</p>
Cambridgeshire	<p>Grant of £2500 to Illuminate Charity - Illuminate provides confidence coaching and personal development courses for people who are unemployed, disadvantaged or vulnerable, to help them make sustainable changes to their lives. £2500 awarded to contribute towards a five-day personal development programme for 10 unemployed people with mental health issues. 100% recorded a positive shift in confidence and self-esteem.</p>
Cheshire Community Foundation	<p>L, a single mother with learning difficulties, has 4 children – 16 (M), 12(B), 8(S) and 1(Z). M has learning difficulties and B challenging behaviour. A Health Visitor referred them to Home-Start as L struggled with routines, home conditions were poor and deemed unfit to live in. L was reluctant to engage but, as the alternative was to be referred to Social Care, she agreed. A volunteer was matched, who initially spent 2 days with L and M clearing rubbish from the property, sourcing new furniture and fittings and engaging with the local housing association who helped by purchasing carpets and with repairs. She showed L how to clean the house and set up a routine, explaining that it had to be kept to the set standard, and taught L to cook. L received a lot support from M, in cleaning and caring for Z. L's Mother managed her finances, paying bills and giving L money for essentials. L and M responded well to the volunteer, who visited weekly to check that conditions were being maintained. They were keen to please and followed her recommendations. M left school and got an apprenticeship but continued helping to run the home and care for Z. Z was able play and appropriate toys were provided. L and Z were supported in attending a Mother and Toddler group which they both enjoyed and started to attend independently. S attended Home-Start's summer activities and was a pleasant, happy boy. There were no issues with attendance at school. Home-Start withdrew their support, after a lengthy period of sustainability with home conditions being at an acceptable level, L providing healthy meals and accessing</p>

	<p>activities with Z. B did not accept the support and was absent during the visits and school continue to deal with ongoing concerns with B.</p>
<p>Community Foundation for Surrey</p>	<p>Theme: Community Cohesion Project summary: 10,000 towards rental costs and part time staff at Stripey Stork - a small local charity which supports vulnerable families in the community by providing them with practical items for their families - equipment, furniture, clothes and toys - free of charge. 4500 benefited. 2015-16 - Charity responded to 815 requests for help and gave out items valuing approx. £225k. 2016-17 - Charity responded to over 1500 requests for help and gave out items worth £400k.</p>
<p>Community Foundation serving Tyne & Wear and Northumberland</p>	<p>The Cedarwood Trust Project: Meadow Well Elders Grant amount: £2,834 Category: Health and wellbeing Area of benefit: North Tyneside</p> <p>The Cedarwood Trust wanted to develop work with isolated older people on the Meadow Well Estate in North Tyneside. The aim was to bring older residents together to build up supportive social networks and reduce the instances of isolation and loneliness. To demonstrate the need for this project it wrote "<i>There are currently 3,665 over 50's residing on the Meadow Well Estate with ¼ of these being over 60. The Cedarwood Trust's Lower Super Output Area (DCLG 2011) puts the area in the bottom 1.7% in terms of income deprivation pertaining to the proportion of older people aged 60+ living in income deprived households and many with whom we come into contact struggle to make ends meet. This group of older residents often feel overlooked and ignored when decisions are being made about the future of the Estate further increasing the feelings of isolation and disaffection</i>".</p> <p>Throughout the year the Cedarwood Trust supported an additional 54 isolated older people. It delivered 68 centre-based activity sessions and made 1,156 visits to individuals homes.</p> <p>It reported that during the past year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have increased community cohesion amongst over 50's in the community • There has been a reduction in community isolation • We have seen an increase in demand for the service • We have trained a cohort of 10 Community Support Volunteers and 12 school children as good neighbours to the elderly • We have worked with partners to increase our offer to older residents of our community • 2,860 meals have been prepared by the over 50's through our separate Soup-a Gran project • 1,820 hot meals have been delivered in the local community

<p>Cornwall CF</p>	<p>Theme: Health and wellbeing</p> <p>Each week Pengarth Day Centre in Penzance provides lunches and refreshments at the day centre, meals on wheels, bathing, exercises, cognitive therapies and entertainment to over a hundred different people from their community. They have a hairdresser and chiropodist who come in regularly to provide other much needed services. All of their services help support older people and keep them well and independent enabling them to live in their own homes for longer, come out of any hospital stays sooner and also support their families.</p> <p>The Emily Bolitho Trust Fund invested £4,800 towards their transport scheme. The transport of Pengarth is essential to the people of Penzance and surrounding areas. With the grant they are able to keep the cost down of providing transport to the people who attend the centre and delivering meals on wheels. As one older person quoted <i>"If I didn't have the Pengarth transport to pick me up I wouldn't get out of my house at all"</i>. Another lady told them <i>"I rely on the meals delivery service from Pengarth as I am unable to cook or shop myself anymore"</i>. The support they provide helps older people stay in the community of Penzance for longer and also reduces the demand on other Health Care Services when all some people need is company, support and a home cooked meal.</p>
<p>County Durham Community Foundation</p>	<p>Nouveau Fitness Darlington - amount awarded £4500</p> <p>Fit 4 Work, Fit 4 Life was designed to educate students at Queen Elizabeth Sixth Form College and surrounding schools about the importance of healthy living for working life and life in general. Nouveau Wellbeing and Queen Elizabeth Sixth Form College worked in partnership to engage 152 students in fun and interactive dance and fitness sessions. Through case studies, questionnaires, activity diaries and group discussion we were able to identify that this had contributed towards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved confidence • Increased physical activity levels • Increased awareness of the importance of physical activity in relation to physical and mental health • Increased awareness of the importance of keeping fit and healthy in relation to educational success and working life <p>45 young people were recruited as Dance and Fitness Activators volunteering time to co-teach, promote activity and share learning. As discussed, the project has helped increase physical activity levels, improve confidence and self-esteem, and increase awareness of the importance of physical activity. In addition, the project has helped the young people develop friendships and feel more positive.</p> <p>Case study 1: Jordan aged 14, enjoys playing computer games and hanging out with his friends. He heard about the project whilst attending PE and thought it might be something that he would enjoy.</p>

	<p>Being able to build his upper body strength is something that he most enjoyed and as a result has made him feel more confident. He encouraged more of his friends to join the project and they now continue to work out together.</p> <p>Case study 2: Ewan aged 15, enjoys reading, playing games and cycling. Since participating in the project, he feels more positive about himself and says he now enjoys fitness, particularly group exercise. The part he enjoyed most about the project was being able to compete against his friends.</p> <p>Case study 3: Thomas aged 15, enjoys playing computer games. He was interested in the project because it sounded new and exciting. He has enjoyed every aspect of the sessions and feels it has helped him become fitter. He now feels like he isn't as lazy and will continue being more active as a Fitness Activator.</p>
Cumbria	<p>Theme: Education</p> <p>Drop Zone Youth Project on Cornwallis Street in Barrow in Furness works with young people aged 11 to 21, many of whom do not go to mainstream school, to offer them opportunities to learn and develop new skills, alongside support for behaviour or lifestyle issues. Their programmes are individualised, which helps to retain and engage young people. Drop Zone provides alternative education to some of the hardest to reach individuals who are at risk of homelessness, youth offending, drug and alcohol misuse and teenage parenthood. Staff encourage young people to achieve. The grant was used to support the role of the Education Development Worker who liaises with schools, families, the police and children's services, to improve the young person's life chances. The worker provides drop-in advice sessions and runs activities, as well as supporting the day to day running of the alternative education provision.</p> <p>Susan Johnson, Project Manager at the Drop Zone Youth Project, said: <i>"In the past year, we have received 27 referrals from local secondary schools and the Local Education Authority. 18 have since gained qualifications in Maths and English, and almost all have made a positive transition into college, further training, apprenticeships or employment. Thanks to funding, we are able to facilitate an environment for young people to sit their GCSE's which enables them to feel comfortable in familiar surroundings rather than re-entering schools where they have been disengaged from for long periods of time. Often young people who enter our alternative education provision can feel like a failure. We help young people feel proud of their achievements by celebrating even the smallest of tasks. We encourage them to make plans for the future and raise their aspirations to increase their motivation for further success."</i></p>
Derbyshire	<p>Whaley Bridge Film Club were awarded £1,000 to fund the purchase of new projection equipment</p>

	<p><i>"Such a significant improvement, clearer picture and sound and given that some of the elderly members have visual / auditory problems it's really made the experience of the local cinema a joy again"</i> - Film Club Member</p> <p>For this rural peak community, access to certain services and particularly the arts is diminished. There is no commercial cinema in the High Peak with individuals or families having to travel into Manchester, Stockport or Chesterfield. A cinema experience is a shared, community asset that brings people together; an asset that can be easily taken for granted in an urban environment. This volunteer led group has never owned its own projector, relying on hiring from a local enthusiast. This meant their plans for extending their cinema nights and providing specific screenings for vulnerable / isolated elderly residents and younger families could never be fulfilled. It also constantly led to a feeling of insecurity around their long-term future. One simple purchase has changed everything and now they are free to make the cinema club a resource for every single resident.</p> <p><i>"This Summer thanks to this new equipment we were, for the first time, able to participate in the Whaley Water Weekend Festival. We put on two free films including one just for children and families."</i> - Group Treasurer</p> <p><i>"Now the film club has its own equipment we are exploring the possibility of a cinema night for our Stroke Club members"</i> - Chair of New Mills Volunteer Centre</p>
Devon	<p>Community First Kitsons Fund So-Fly CIC (Housing and homelessness)</p> <p>There are many disadvantaged young people living within Devon, these vulnerable young people are often at risk of sofa surfing or street homelessness. In 2015-16, 219 young people aged 16-25, made homeless applications to Torbay City Council alone. Lacking safe and secure accommodation was clearly having a detrimental impact on many aspects of their lives, sometimes leading to drug and alcohol abuse or mental health issues. One vital way of supporting those in need can be to reduce the amount of time they are in crisis, helping to prevent their lives becoming even more chaotic. This can be achieved by rebuilding relationships or finding safe accommodation.</p> <p>£2,000 was invested in So-Fly CIC, to provide a support service offering long term solutions for some of the most vulnerable young people in Torbay. The project has worked with many young people facing homelessness, supporting each individual to address their specific needs.</p> <p><i>"This is just a quick thank you to the man who saved my life, who got me the help I needed when I was living on the streets and found me a place to live, made sure I had enough food and constantly checked up on me to see how I was."</i> Beneficiary Quote</p>

Dorset	<p>Theme: Community Cohesion International Care Network Ltd</p> <p>Refugee women with pre-school children have been substantially helped by the ESOL lessons that they have been able to attend once a week with their children. Not only have they been able to improve their literacy in English but they have also been able to gain confidence in socialising and making friends outside their immediate family. Many of the children for the first time have had the opportunity to leave their mothers and play with other children in the crèches that run alongside these ESOL lessons. Currently this programme which also includes homework clubs is reaching 91 refugee families on a weekly basis. The wider local communities benefits from these women being empowered to integrate more. We noticed that sometimes some of the more 'vulnerable' women stop coming after a few weeks. This usually triggers a home visit or a phone call to give them further support as required.</p> <p>Personal Story: L arrived from Syria in October 2016, with two pre-school children. She attended our ESOL classes for a whole year, during which time she made lots of friends, which helped her to get over the trauma of being separated from her wider family back in Damascus. In September 2017, she enrolled on an ESOL entry three course at Bournemouth And Poole College and is now able to attend as both her children go to a pre-school on those mornings L, with the support of her husband, who works as a carer, would like to resume her career in pharmacy which she began before she left Syria. L really appreciated the ESOL lessons run by ICN in a local community centre in the first year of her life here. They enabled her to enter college at a much higher level than she would otherwise have done.</p>
East London (assumed from case study)	<p>Theme: Split between the Education and Safety theme</p> <p>The fund has been funding summer activities to keep children engaged and safe during the holiday period. The applicable borough has one of the highest youth populations in the UK and is one of the most deprived in London. ASB is extremely high, growing year on year and the Local Authority for this type of provision has been cut. Several youth projects decided to set up summer programmes to complement their term time provision and applied to EECF for funding. The programme was successful with more children attending than anticipated. An evaluation form from a parent said that during the programme their child's confidence had grown and know that he was safe and engaged she used the time to secure temporary accommodation (they were previously homeless) and secure herself a part time job. She was confident that they had a bright future and she was especially grateful to the youth group for taking such good care of her child. Following the programme, she said that her son had settled well in school and the youth group confirmed that he was a regular positive attendee at the term time youth project.</p>

<p>Gloucestershire</p>	<p>The Matson area of Gloucester is the most deprived area in the county. GCF awarded a grant of £4,000 to a local community group towards the costs of activities and the ongoing costs of their community hub. This local group were also able to raise funds from the People’s Lottery and the Police and Crime Commissioner to continue their activities. Over the course of a year, they estimate that over 1,400 people have engaged in social activities or accessed the hub for support. In Hester’s Way in Cheltenham, a grant of £7,800 was awarded to a local community group for a project called “Time Out” to support families in need. This includes helping parents to improve their parenting skills and enjoy family life, which has a big impact on children and their future. And in the rural Cotswolds, where the beauty of the countryside attracts wealthy tourists, local people struggle to afford housing or access good local services. In Cirencester, we awarded a provider of temporary accommodation for young people a grant of £8,000 to support 16 to 19 year olds on their path towards independence.</p>
<p>Hampshire & Isle of Wight</p>	<p>Case Study: Wheatsheaf Trust, Ford Southampton Community Fund, Community First Endowment Match Challenge Programme In 2012, HIWCF participated in the Community First Endowment Match Challenge Programme. This enabled HIWCF to attract match funding at a minimum rate of 50% when raising new endowment funds and in March 2016, Ford Motor Company Ltd established the Ford Southampton Community Fund. The priority for this Fund is to support disenfranchised and disadvantaged young people in Southampton City and Eastleigh for generations to come, to build their technical skills and behavioural training enabling them to achieve their personal and educational goals and overcome the barriers that previously prevented them from entering the workplace. In 2016, a £6,000 grant was made from the Ford Southampton Community Fund to the Wheatsheaf Trust to provide education and training opportunities to disengaged young people with the aim of supporting them to enter the workplace. Under the supervision of inspirational mentor Duke Harrison-Hunter, youngsters affected by extremely complex needs ranging from behavioural issues and recovery from substance misuse to mental health issues and disabilities received training on the importance and benefits of employment, covering issues such as expected behaviour and communication styles in the workplace. Duke has connected with the young people on a one-to-one basis, totally engaging with and listening to them, providing them with a consistent, positive presence in their lives. They have real respect for Duke as they know he has experienced tough and challenging times in his own life. One participant, John experienced an extremely difficult and violent relationship with his step-father, which led to him bullying and intimidating others himself. He then fell into burglary and selling</p>

	<p>drugs, eventually being remanded at the age of 15. John thought his life was over, but through the Wheatsheaf Trust he has been able to turn his life around. John said, <i>“This programme got me a job, kept me alive and kept me away from criminal activity, it has given me the confidence to get on with things”</i>.</p>
<p>Hertfordshire Community Foundation</p>	<p>Spare Tyre Theatre Company Theme: Health and Wellbeing Need: Support for those with dementia and their carers - The proportion of deaths from Dementia and Alzheimer’s disease have increased in all the Hertfordshire districts over the period 2008/12. Hertfordshire County Council estimates that the number of people living in Hertfordshire affected by dementia will rise by 24% for those aged 65 and over between 2012-20. It is estimated that there are currently over 14,000 people with dementia in Hertfordshire and this number is set to increase to 16,400 by the year 2020. Activity: ‘The Garden’ is a multi-sensory performance for people with dementia. During an interactive one-hour performance, actors take people with dementia on a journey through the seasons. It brings the outdoors inside, creating moments of shared joy, inspiring imagination and acting as a skills development tool for the carer. Working in two care homes in the Welwyn Garden City and Stevenage areas, the group will also work with carers and care staff, training them in different ways to communicate and interact with those with dementia. Story of change: The Garden performances invigorated residents with dementia and gave carers new ways of interacting. It inspired the care homes to re-think their sensory rooms/activities to better serve their residents. 100% of the carers who attended the training said they had learnt new skills and felt more confident in using creative ways to communicate with and care for those with dementia. Outcomes achieved: Engaged 160 people in performances and training – 70 more than anticipated.</p>
<p>Kent Community Foundation</p>	<p>Cinque Ports Community Kitchen CIC Theme: Education, employability and work Need: Cinque Ports Community Kitchen CIC was established in 2013 with the primary mission to teach disadvantaged people in the local community to cook from scratch whilst on a tight budget, with fresh healthy ingredients. As a result, the beneficiaries gain access to a healthy diet, develop employment related skills, grow in self-confidence and reduce social isolation. Activity: The generous grant of £1,000 that was made by The Minerva Fund has allowed Cinque Ports Community Kitchen to run twenty cooking sessions at Chequers Kitchen Cookery School for young people, in Deal. These sessions ran from 7pm to 8pm with an average of six young people attending; whilst the twenty sessions were spread out over a time frame of just under a year (June 2016 to</p>

	<p>March 2017). This average of six young people attending each session actually saw some build in momentum over the last ten sessions, with average attendance rising to seven per week.</p> <p>Outputs/outcomes: In total, twenty-six young people attended at least one session, only one young person attended once, and one young person actually came thirteen times. The mean attendance per young person was four and a half times whilst the median attendance was four sessions per young person. Two young girls who attended even went as far as to walk two and a half miles to one session in the summer when they thought they would not be able to get a lift. The young people learned useful practical skills. They had to concentrate and follow instructions and improved their capacity to do so over time. They experienced success and pride in the dishes they created and were able to show others (at the young centre or at home) that they had been productive and created something delicious and of value.</p>
Lancashire & Merseyside	<p>Ykids is a children's charity working in Bootle. They work with around 2000 children and young people per week via creative group work, mentoring sessions, sports work, school work and activity based sessions. Ykids wish is to see the transformation of Bootle from an area characterised by poverty and crime to a vibrant cohesive community and their starting point is children and young people. YKids were awarded funds from The Liverpool ONE CF programme.</p> <p>Aim: To increase young people's skills in working with children, develop transferable skills such as problem solving, communication and working as part of team as well as softer skills such as increased confidence and aspirations.</p> <p>YKids believe that an increase in soft skills is just as important as formal qualifications as it is when a young person believes in themselves and develops a determination to succeed that they create change for themselves. The project culminated in young people planning and delivering their own social action project – a pop-up art gallery in Bootle which was identified by the young people as a way to unite the community as it was inclusive to all. All the young people undertook volunteering either on the social action project, in the Ykids bookshop at the Bootle Children's literary festival, on the 'That's magic' programme for children aged 8-12, in North Perk (a social enterprise cafe), with Ykids 'Big Bash' holiday club and one young person is being supported to find voluntary work with a local Rugby club coaching children.</p> <p><i>"The best thing about MADE in Bootle was being able to mix with new people. I learnt that I can get along with most people and that my community is more friendly than people think. MADE in Bootle helped me to gain confidence and it can do that for other people"</i></p>

<p>Leicestershire and Rutland</p>	<p>Set up in memory of De Montfort University student Ben Lazarus, the Ben Lazarus Fund was opened with £23,750 plus Community First endowment match of £11,875 and has been working ever since to support DMU students in financial need who require overseas travel to expand their educational insight or future employment potential.</p> <p>The Fund has numerous beneficiaries, and most recently enabled four financially insecure students to travel abroad with the #DMUGlobal programme, a Times Higher Education Award winning initiative which aims to enrich studies, broaden cultural horizons and to develop key skills valued by employers through international experiences.</p> <p>With funding from the Ben Lazarus Fund, a first year student of Social Work headed to The Gambia Development School in January 2017, to learn about globalisation and cultural competence. She had experienced much upheaval before deciding to settle in Leicester in order to start studying social work at DMU, relocating several times and living in three different countries.</p> <p>The programme also enabled a first year Health Studies student to go on 'the Poverty Amidst Plenty trip' to Florida to try to get an understanding of the social issues lying beneath the 'American Dream'.</p> <p>Elsewhere, a third year Forensic Science student was given funding which allowed her to secure a place on the Guatemalan Forensic Anthropology Field School, a unique opportunity which gives students practical experience to deepen their knowledge around the DNA profiling module they are studying at University. And, thanks to the funding, a third year Photography & Video student was able to go on the trip of a lifetime to New York with her faculty on a study trip. In each case, the overseas experiences have helped the students to grow academically and professionally as well as personally, putting them in stronger positions when they are ready to enter employment.</p>
<p>Norfolk</p>	<p>Norwich Door to Door has been operating for 25 years, offering low cost supported transport to people in the Greater Norwich area. Passengers typically have a range of health issues including multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's disease, stroke, chronic arthritis, cerebral palsy and cancer, plus age related mental ill health and injuries from falls. As well as providing door to door transport, the team also help passengers into their homes, providing an opportunity to note changes or problems that can be passed on to family or support services. Many passengers live alone, and hugely value the service which for many is their only means of getting out. The charity's research shows that 100% of passengers (who range in age from 5 to 101) think Norwich Door to Door has improved their lives, and 72% said they felt less isolated as a result of using the service. The service has around 500 registered passengers of whom 200 are regular users.</p> <p>Case study: I joined Norwich Door to Door in 2001 when I was partially sighted and used a walking stick/crutches to get about. I</p>

	<p>have MS and now am in a wheelchair permanently. I live on my own and cannot get out without the help of others. I cannot reach the nearest bus stop due to my sight and taxis are too expensive. I have children however can no longer get in and out of their cars. I use Norwich Door to Door at least two times a week to take me to the MS Centre for physio or yoga sessions and occasionally to go shopping or meet my friend for lunch.</p> <p>My experience of using door to door: The drivers and passenger assistants are amazing, when they come to collect me they always offer their help. They help me put my coat on, a task which can often take me up to ten minutes to do on my own. They even lock my doors for me. I cannot praise the bus teams enough, the care they give is incredible. When I used to be able to walk by using crutches, one of them would follow me up the steps and another would stand in front of me ensuring that I didn't fall. They always put my safety first and ensure that I am safe and seated before seeing to my crutches or walking aid. They're so kind, they even look to put an extension or padding on the seat belt, so it doesn't cut into my neck. They really anchor my wheelchair down when I'm on the bus, making me feel safe that there is no danger. Before when I've had to use a black cab, my wheelchair wasn't anchored down, and my wheelchair kept crashing into the side door. I did not feel safe. When I arrive at my destination they take me right where I need to be. At the Ms Centre, they help me sign in (as I'm partially sighted it's hard for me to do myself) and then take me to the relevant treatment room. If I'm meeting my friend for lunch, they'll take to the table, so I don't have to try and navigate my way round the restaurant. What I would do without Norwich Door to Door: Without the services of Door to Door I would be house bound, and life would be grey. I value their services enormously. They don't just take me around Norwich but also offer special trips, this summer I went to Holme Hale Hall and it was absolutely lovely. My daughter accompanied me on the trip too! I can't go on holiday so trips like that is my escape. It's always such a refreshing break and gives me a lot of pleasure.</p>
<p>Northamptonshire</p>	<p>About the Group: Cerebral Palsy Northamptonshire is a registered charity with a base in Northampton.</p> <p>The objectives of the group are set out in the constitution and relate to the care, welfare, interest and needs of persons, resident in Northamptonshire, with any form of cerebral palsy, including hemiplegia, diplegia, ataxic/athetoid or dyskinetic palsy and quadriplegia. Membership is free and open to people with cerebral palsy, together with their family / carer(s).</p> <p>What we Funded and Why: We are organising a summer fun day and will invite all members, friends, families and carers to attend. Also invited are people with other disabilities, to give people the opportunity to catch up with each other. We have run the fun day for 5 years and it is increasingly popular. Older members enjoy</p>

	<p>coming and meeting up with friends, as there are not many activities where this can be done. Numbers attending have increased, and people ask for the date early in the year. We have photos of the previous events and have had lovely thank you's. One of the nicest things is how people enjoy chatting to friends that they have not seen for a long time.</p> <p>What was Achieved: 100 beneficiaries taking part in event. The group organised a summer fun day which was attended by members, families and carers. People had the opportunity to experience new activities such as wheelchair basketball and disabled bowling. A performance was carried out by disabled dancers and included live singing. The event was a safe place for people with cerebral palsy to have fun.</p> <p>Where? Local Authority: Northampton, Ward : Nene Valley, Area of Benefit: Northampton</p> <p>Foundation Support Funding Programme: Constance Travis Community First Fund</p> <p>Amount Funded: £600.00</p> <p>Date Funded: July 2015</p> <p>Primary Ethnicity: British, Primary issue: Social Inclusion, Primary Beneficiaries: People with physical disabilities, Primary Age Group: Young Adults (19 – 25), Number of Beneficiaries: 100</p> <p>Primary Outcome: reduce isolation,</p> <p>Number of people who participated in community activities as a result of the project: 100,</p> <p>Number of people attending regular social activities as part of the project: 50</p> <p>Secondary Outcome: increase access to sports, leisure and exercise activities, Number of people taking part in sport, exercise & leisure activities as part of the project: 100,</p> <p>Number of activities available as part of the project: 13,</p> <p>Number of new people taking part in sport, exercise & leisure activities as part of the project: 10,</p> <p>Number of hours of sport, exercise & leisure activities provided by the project: 3, Number of new activities available as part of the project: 2</p> <p>Tertiary Outcome: support vulnerable people,</p> <p>Number of people who participated in community activities for the first time as part of the project: 10,</p> <p>Number of people attending regular social activities as a result of the project: 5</p>
Nottinghamshire	<p>Case Study on Notts Building Society - Grants For Good</p> <p>Community Inc CIC received £4,375.00 in March 2013 for Young Black Jobseeker's Guide</p> <p>Background: Community Inc CIC are set to launch their Young Black Jobseeker's guide, an offshoot of their already successful Ready to Work programme, made possible by Notts Building Society's Grants</p>

	<p>For Good. After Ready To Work provided job seeking sessions for 60 young people over a 12 month period in the St Ann's and Sneinton areas, helping disadvantaged youngsters attain employment, apprenticeships and further education or training, it was natural to expand their good work into other deprived areas of the city using a creative format.</p> <p>Project: The organization value feedback, perfecting their service by listening to the views of the young users. <i>'After using 'mainstream' jobseeking methods in the early sessions, we found they did not speak to the young people'</i> explained staff member Michael Henry, <i>'participants from the Ready to Work programme effectively produced the guide that this funding was provided to develop. We will be printing 1000 copies to distribute to employment and education support providers as well as youth groups. We work with 5 youth voluntary and community sector groups across the city.'</i> The guide covers the value of voluntary work, writing applications, communication skills, interviews, giving presentations and CV writing, all rendered in a language style that appeals to the youth and demystifies crucial terminology. Many of the young people Community Inc CIC work with are coming from homes where their parents haven't worked at all or for many years. As a result, they sometimes haven't had much encouragement to seek employment. Many have been excluded or dropped out of school and view education and training pessimistically. Some participants with literacy problems had received 'traditional' job-search support but found it confusing and complicated. The service works to break down negative preconceptions that may make youngsters doubt themselves or choose an alternate path to working.</p> <p>Sustainability: Community Inc CIC are heavily dependent on an ever-changing crew of volunteers, who can range from the disenfranchised unemployed to graduates. Their useful resource could slot well into libraries and community centres for a long time, which would incur future printing costs, and after glowing responses from those who've read the guide, high demand is anticipated. With the project about to go to print, Michael aspires to film contributions from youngsters and produce an accompanying DVD that would bring the job seeker's guide to life.</p> <p>Date: 14/04/14</p>
<p>One Community, the Kirklees community Foundation</p>	<p>Theme: Education</p> <p>£1000 funding for the training of two volunteer Forest School Practitioners to Level 3. Be More Outdoors was established in 2011 to run cheap family forest schools and bush craft sessions. Chairman of Be More Outdoors Fiona Hopkins said: <i>"We are extremely grateful to One Community for their support. We can now expand and in turn give children more opportunities to be outside, learn and develop."</i></p> <p>Outcomes: Forest school sessions were operating at a loss. But with two new volunteer practitioners fully trained, our costs reduced and</p>

	<p>as a result 'Be More Outdoors' were able to can run more sessions (offering an additional 90 places), and also reduce the price of sessions.</p>
Oxfordshire	<p>Theme: Employability & Work / Homelessness The Porch Steppin Forward The grant was used to help fund a Kitchen Manager's salary at homeless shelter. The Kitchen Manager will work with 6 beneficiaries who were prepared to develop catering skills to give them a realistic opportunity to find work or engage in a positive volunteering role. Participants gained vocational skills, e.g. the need for punctuality and to get to 'work' at certain times. They learned to work as part of a team, deal with the public, and respond to guidance and feedback, as well as health and safety procedures. They improved their living standards; quality of life and wellbeing as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 people found new full-time employment • 3 people found part-time employment • 3 improved wellbeing <p>Finding work through the job club helped participants to engage with the wider Oxford public and community. Also for those finding work, reduced reliance on benefits. Working and interacting as part of a team was found to improve the social skills of all participants, as was receiving positive self-esteem messages such as being complimented by the kitchen manager, seeing the results of their jam making. In one case, a participant's self-esteem improved to the point of being able to perform in front of the public (as part of a music band) at Holywell Music Room.</p> <p>AS lost his job in Oxford. This, coupled with a mental breakdown due to grief, led to him losing his accommodation and he became homeless. AS arrived at The Porch homeless day centre during winter, and our project workers helped him find a temporary bed in a hostel. During the day he would come for the two meals we serve at the Centre, and subsequently signed up to becoming a volunteer in the kitchen, working under the supervision of kitchen manager to help prepare cafe food, and clean up afterwards. His confidence and self-esteem improved as he interacted with staff. He also attended The Porch's weekly job club that helps homeless people look for work. His project worker referred him to an employment agency with a good reference from the kitchen manager, as a result of which AS is now working at a local restaurant and has moved into privately rented accommodation.</p>
Quartet Community Foundation (West of England)	<p>Bristol Drugs Project Theme: Health and wellbeing Need: Support to children and young people (CYP) aged 5-16 years whose Mum, Dad, carer or sibling's drug or alcohol use is problematic.</p>

	<p>The aim is to reduce isolation experienced by CYP and to build their resilience within the reality of their family life.</p> <p>Activity: Mentoring. Provided weekly one to one activity-based support from a volunteer mentor for 1 year. Activities are agreed between CYP and their mentor and aim to inspire the young person to try something new, develop an interest and to feel confident in using resources within their community e.g. parks, community centres. The mentor collects and drops the CYP back at home and arranges sessions through the CYP and/or parent/carer. BDP's staff member does initial assessments (at CYP's home), 6 month and end reviews and liaises with family and other professionals involved with the family. BDP also runs Youth Groups for CYP - twice a month for under 10s and monthly for 11-16 year olds. At each group CYP have an opportunity to try an organised activity e.g. creative session (cover of 2016 calendar uploaded), baking, or games) free play in the adventure playground and help to prepare a simple shared meal. There is also time with a youth worker or volunteer if necessary. Minibus transport is arranged for all CYP - escorted by youth workers and volunteers, who liaise with parents/carers, ensuring the sessions can be accessed safely by all of Bristol's communities.</p> <p>Personal story of change: B is 15 years old and she smokes Cannabis regularly – as does her 22 year old brother who has parental responsibility. B's mother died 8 months ago, and her Dad is autistic and although he supports her financially he is unable to support her on an emotional level. B had some time-limited support from a Bristol Youth Links worker at her school and they made a referral for a mentor. B reports the benefits of mentoring as enjoying having someone to talk too and confide in that is away from family and school. B is starting to reflect on her cannabis use and how it affects her which is positive progress. She has been isolated but since having support she is spending more time with friends. Her school has also increased their support since BDP's mentoring started, helping them understand the impact for her of her bereavement, her difficult relationship with her father and her cannabis use – normalised within her home life.</p> <p>Outcomes achieved: Mentoring and Youth Groups provided CYP 'time out' from their family member's drug or alcohol use. Mentors provided CYP with a non-judgmental reliable adult in their lives. Youth groups offered CYP a safe space where they are with other CYP whose life experience is similar to theirs and where they don't need to hide their family circumstances. CYP had opportunity to try new experiences, build friendships and learn that they can change. Community members trained as mentors and youth group volunteers gained insight into the importance of reducing stigma experienced by people struggling with alcohol or drug problems to encourage family members to change behaviours and to enable CYP to get the support they need to thrive.</p>
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<p>South Yorkshire Community Foundation</p>	<p>Dancestars Dance Group Sheffield Theme: Health and Wellbeing Need: In 2016, Dancestars was founded in response to dance activities in Sheffield for children and young people with learning disabilities no longer running. A group of parents whose children benefitted from the dance groups came together to form Dancestars, to ensure that activities remain available to children and young people. The Dancestars group received grant funding from the Grant Thornton Community First Endowment Fund, enabling the group to fund tutor and venue costs for its classes. Activity: Participants learn dance routines to pop songs, exercise and socialise. The group also performs their routines for audiences and have recently performed at the Octagon Centre in Sheffield. Personal story of change: Dancestars' secretary, Nicolette Chowdry said <i>"One of our group had a particularly bad breakdown a couple of years ago and Dancestars has really helped her come out the other side of it. Her co-ordination, co-operation and communication have all increased massively over the last few months. Her mother, who doesn't see her dance often was overwhelmed when she saw her dance at the Octagon. She couldn't believe that her daughter was a key part of the group, well-co-ordinated and with a distinct role."</i> Outcomes achieved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased confidence in participants • Reduced isolation • Currently working with 15 children and young people aged from 5 to 18 • Increased access to sports, exercise and leisure activities • Improved physical and mental health
<p>Suffolk Community Foundation</p>	<p>Theatre Royal Bury St Edmunds and Bury Women's Aid This group were funded by a Community First private donor in December 2015 to support a creative writing and recording project at the Theatre Royal BSE (TRBSE) working with women from the Bury St Edmunds, Women's Aid Centre. They worked with women who had been resettled in Bury St Edmunds, and those recently removed from abusive environments. The project gave a voice to the women's stories about their experiences, and reflections on domestic violence. The work was then performed by community actors associated with the Theatre in front of an invited audience. The performance which took place in March 2016, had an audience of approximately 50 people, including the Chief Constable of Suffolk. The play was performed by the community actors and then the women whose stories had been told sat on stage and were interviewed by the audience. It was a heartfelt and moving experience for the audience, the Women's Refugee and those women who had bravely shared their stories. They claimed the performance was "better than therapy" for their well-being, bringing them together to form</p>

	<p>friendships and a support network. The donor and the Grants Manager attended this performance and were so impressed by its impact that they worked with the Theatre, and the Head of Public Affairs at Suffolk Community Foundation to re-create the performance. This was then performed in front of 300 invited, serving Police Officers, Social Workers, Nurses and any other statutory services that wanted to learn more about the effects of Domestic Abuse. There was a second performance in the evening to an invited audience of 300 people, the theatre piece, Survivor's Voices received much press coverage and the feedback was so impactful that the Theatre are now working with other disadvantaged groups to try something similar.</p>
<p>Sussex Community Foundation</p>	<p>Somerset Day Centre received a grant of £2,049 from the drawdown on the Community First Isaac Ganas Endowment Fund in September 2015.</p> <p><i>"The funding was used to support the costs of Somerset Day Centre, providing a four day-a-week day service to the local residents, predominantly in East Brighton" says Centre Manager, Jules Dienes, "we provide regular daily activities with transport and a nutritious lunch and membership has increased 10% over the last year."</i></p> <p>Personal story of change: In November 2015, a gentleman in his mid-50s with complex health conditions was referred to the Somerset Day Centre by the local council's Independence at Home team. He had been referred to the team following a bout of gastroenteritis and subsequent dehydration, along with other health conditions including a spinal injury, hyperthyroidism and depression. He was also experiencing frequent falls. They arranged a wheelchair and mobility aids to enable him to go out with support. Before attending the Centre, Mr A said he felt 'lost and nothing to live for'. He was unable to go out and was feeling very isolated. Somerset Day Centre gave support and encouragement to Mr A to walk, using only a stick, which led to a growth in his confidence. He grew confident enough to buy a car which has helped to transform his life. He now buys his own shopping and no longer needs home care. Since then, Mr A regularly attends the regular Older and Out group. He is making friends and again taking part in his local community. He has even bought a dog - for company and to encourage his daily exercise! <i>"Since becoming a member of Somerset Day Centre, I feel happy and have something to look forward to," says Mr A, "I didn't think I would be driving a car and doing my own shopping again."</i></p>
<p>Wiltshire</p>	<p>Memory Makers is a programme that matches children aged between 9 and 12 with adults, typically volunteers, who meet on a regular basis to share simple fun activities and yet create life-lasting memories to support their development. Childhood memories are critical reference points for children growing up. A childhood filled with positive memories will in turn promote a child's self-confidence,</p>

	<p>ambition, behaviour and this can transcend into their adult life. There are many children who require this type of supportive, mentoring initiative to help them through times of stress and instability. Creating a positive bank of memories with their mentor, a person who is simply 'there for them' can make a huge difference in a child's eye. The Memory Makers programme is achieving its objective of supporting children and helping them create a bank of 'positive' memories with many children noting it helped them develop new life-skills and allowed them to explore new interests as well as having fun with their Memory Maker. A similar observation was made with the children's parents. The findings from this group confirmed that many parents welcomed the Memory Makers into their homes and were appreciative of the mentoring programme offered. A key point to note is the fact that parents did not feel in any way that their 'parental duties' were being taken over by another adult, but rather found the additional support very helpful due to their current family dynamics. Volunteer interviews highlighted the excellent job Memory Makers had made matching children with the correct volunteer. Responses from this group found that there was close-knit bond between the child and family once a Memory Maker was introduced to the child. Further findings from the teachers interviewed revealed that teachers noticed positive outcomes as a result of the child being on the Memory Makers programme.</p>
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