

UK COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATIONS  

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GIVING FOR LOCAL GOOD

COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS  
AN INTRODUCTION



UK Community Foundations is the national network for all 46 accredited Community Foundations.

Our vision is a society where local philanthropy is the norm, and that through Community Foundations, communities will be able to support all those in need.

Giving creates stronger communities – we help make places better for everyone to live, work and grow up in; and then to give back to.

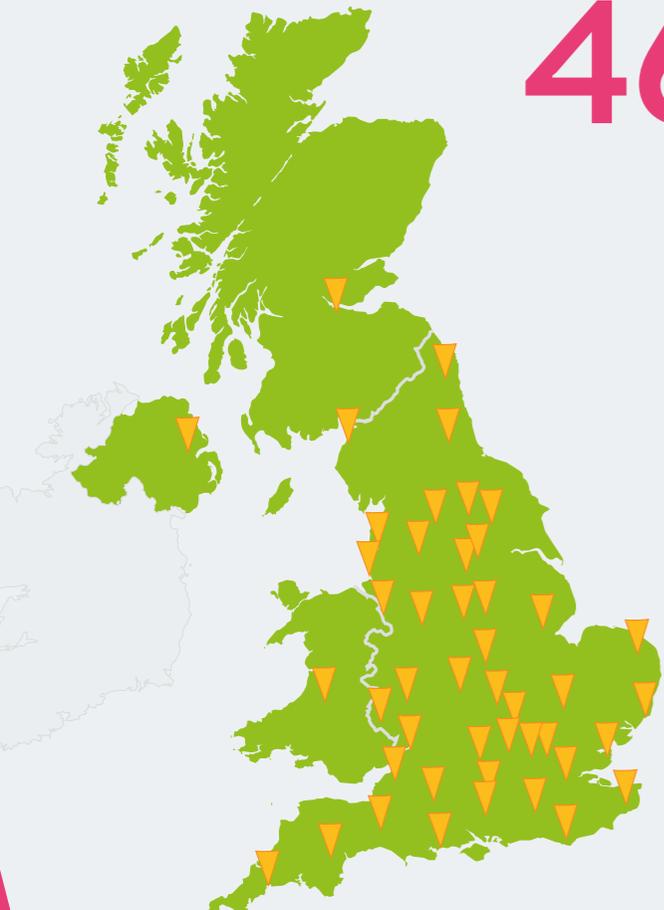


## OUR NETWORK

Community Foundations are 46 independent charities firmly rooted in local communities.

Each Community Foundation has an in-depth understanding of local need and is an expert in making grants and giving advice to small, local charities and community groups to address that need.

Community Foundations have an unparalleled reach into local communities and can serve every one of the UK's postcodes.



**46** accredited  
Community  
Foundations

**4.7m** people impacted by our  
work last year through  
the grants we give

**20,000**  
community groups/local charities supported

**£900m**  
distributed over the past decade

**£70m**  
grants made last year

**£500m** current total  
managed  
endowment

**3,800** funds managed on  
behalf of individuals,  
families and businesses



## UNDERSTANDING COMMUNITIES

Understanding the need in a community is the first step to addressing them.

Community Foundations measure the social temperature of different communities across the UK to uncover the areas that need the most support through the Vital Signs and Uncovered initiatives.

Despite the UK being a relatively affluent country, pockets of deprivation and poverty still exist. In those areas that are perceived to be wealthy, these pockets often get overlooked.

We work with donors, businesses, government and other funders to respond to need.

## LOCAL GIVING IN ACTION

Community Foundations fund many projects that support young people to get their lives back on track.

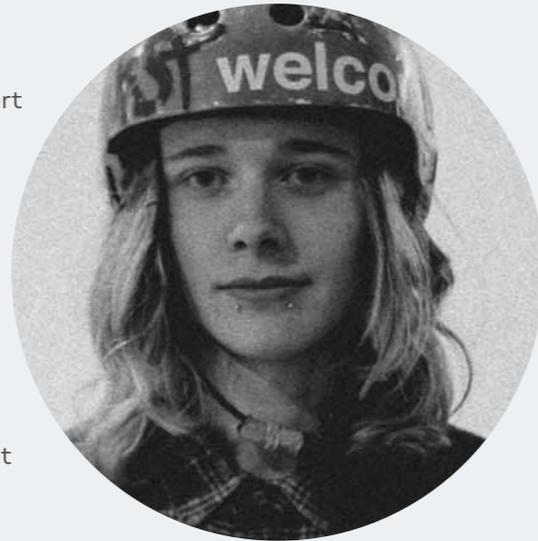
Leeds Community Foundation has set up the Leeds Fund which funds 'The Works Skatepark'.

The Skatepark helped to change Max's life.

"When I was younger I was a bad lad. At least that's what I was labelled as. My parents split up when I was 10 and it affected me really badly. It was tough at home and at school I messed about, until one day I got expelled.

Now I'm an instructor at The Works Skatepark. I help younger kids learn to skateboard and do tricks on their scooters and BMXs. Like any sport this helps them with mental focus, discipline and teamwork skills. It also helps them to forget about any problems at home. It's not the kids' fault if their families are having issues.

The Works Skatepark helps young people like me with social skills, education and getting a job. We also link up with local businesses to provide apprentices that are eager to get to work."



## PREVENTION IS BETTER THAN CURE

One area of focus for Community Foundations is prevention and early intervention. They fund many groups that support people to stay well and healthy, through exercise classes or social groups. These all contribute to keeping people out of hospital and in their community.

One example is Dance in Devon. They provide rehab sessions for cardiac and stroke patients. Not only does this group provide a network for people to socialise; but the exercise they do helps keep them out of hospital with repeat occurrences.

These types of prevention activities are funded up and down the country. Together, this has a massive impact on taking the strain off the NHS.



## VITAL WORK IN OUR COMMUNITIES

UK Community Foundations puts the needs of communities first in a way that no one else does. We tackle current social issues and work closely with others to address key needs. These are a flavour of national programmes managed by UK Community Foundations. In addition to these, each individual Community Foundation raises funds from local donors and then administers grants dependent on need in their local areas.

### HELPING REFUGEES

In 2015, the refugee crisis was making headlines and small and local charities supporting refugees were feeling the strain. In response, we were approached to bring together funders to set up the New Beginnings Fund to help integrate refugees and asylum seekers into their local communities. The fund supported projects such as those providing English lessons and help finding employment. This was the first time that several funders have come together to respond to a social crisis.

### COUNTERING EXTREMISM WITH THE HOME OFFICE

In recent years, we have seen extremists seek to divide communities and cause harm. We support community groups to create more resilient communities, to stand up to extremism, and offer vulnerable individuals a positive alternative.



## YOUTH SOCIAL ACTION #IWILL

UK Community Foundations are proud partners of the #iwill campaign, designed to get more young people to give back to their community through volunteering, fundraising, and campaigning.

### BUILDING STRONGER COMMUNITIES WITH COMIC RELIEF

UK Community Foundations distributes money from Comic Relief to support community cohesion. We have worked with Comic Relief since 2011 and have given away grants of over £27 million.

### KEEPING THE SPIRIT OF THE GAMES ALIVE

Inspired by the 2014 Commonwealth Games, we are working with 14 communities to offer opportunities to get involved in sport, culture, art and volunteering. These opportunities are focused on helping people from disadvantaged communities.

### DISASTER RELIEF

Community Foundations are often at the forefront of disaster relief efforts. In areas such as Cumbria, Yorkshire and Somerset, we provided support to those affected by floods. The London Community Foundation led the appeal for victims of the Grenfell Tower fire in June 2017, in partnership with the Evening Standard.



## WORK WITH US

We are a national network dedicated to working locally and inspiring people to give. We help people and organisations invest in local communities where it is most needed and where it will make the most impact.

We think local philanthropy has a key role to play in tackling some of society's most pressing issues.

We believe working with Community Foundations is the best way to do this.

We'd love to work with you.

If you'd like to know more, please get in touch.

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