**Overview**

The Belfrey Grants Fund has been created by St Michael le Belfrey Church (also known as The Belfrey). It provides a resource to support social action work being done by charities in York, especially those working at grassroots and local community level.

This Grants Fund is part of The Belfrey’s Love York Post-Pandemic Fund, which was set up in 2021, to aid the recovery of the community of York as it emerges from the pandemic. The Love York Post-Pandemic Fund is particularly focussed on the areas of poverty, mental health, and young people and families.

The Belfrey is a city-centre resource church based next to York Minster, serving our city and region.

**What are the priorities for the fund?**

The fund will support charitable activities that focus on the following:

* Poverty
* Mental Health
* Young People and Families

The panel also wish to support projects that encourage volunteering and partnership working. In the event of oversubscription projects that include an element of volunteering or partnership working may be prioritised.

**Grant Availability**

You can apply for up to £5,000, or for a smaller grant of up to £1000.

Applications for the larger grants should be for projects which provide deep or ongoing support or significant impact for one or more of the above priorities.

Applications for up to £1,000 should be for smaller or one-off projects or pilots, particularly those that bring joy to people’s lives. These projects should still meet at least one of the three priorities for the fund.

We will hold two panels in 2023, with £25,000 to distribute at each panel. We expect to fund around four £5,000 projects and five £1000 projects at each panel.

The next deadline is 27th April 2023, with decisions made in June. We will keep the fund open for applications for the final deadline on 28th August 2023, with decisions made in early October. If we don’t receive your application by the first deadline, we will consider it at the second panel in October.

**Eligibility**

All groups should meet our general eligibility criteria which can be found here: <https://www.tworidingscf.org.uk/how-to-apply/>

**Groups must:**

* Be supporting people living in York
* Have a management committee with at least 3 unrelated members
* Be a voluntary organisation, community group, registered charity or other not for profit organisation
* Have a bank account in the group’s name (with two unrelated signatories as a minimum)
* Have an annual income of under £500,000 based on current forecast.

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| **Who cannot apply/ what work will not be supported?** |
| * Individuals
* Private Businesses
* National organisations – except where a local branch of a national organisation can demonstrate its autonomy from the national organisation for example where it has its own local management committee and is responsible for its own accounts
* General appeals or sponsorship
* Work normally funded from statutory sources
* Work undertaken by/ on behalf of schools, colleges or universities as part of their statutory curricular activities
* Work undertaken by or on behalf of statutory bodies
* Faith groups may apply where their work has wider community benefit, where they welcome people of any faith or none. We cannot accept applications where the project is to advance a particular faith by direct evangelism.
* Work where the main beneficiaries are animals
* Work which does not directly benefit people living in the area of benefit.
* Organisations that mainly give funds to other organisations or individuals
* Overseas holidays or trips
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**Next Steps**

An assessor may contact you to obtain further information, please ensure that the person named as the main contact is familiar with the application and can be available to discuss the detail.

All Applications are considered by a local panel and the final decision cannot be changed.

We will contact you by email to let you know the outcome.

Payment runs will usually be done on a fortnightly basis. If your application is successful, provided we have everything we need, your payment will be made on the next payment run following your offer email.

If you require any assistance with the completion of your application, please contact Two Ridings Community Foundation on 01904 929500.