

Wandsworth Oasis Grant Guidelines

Introduction

Wandsworth Oasis (WO) is dedicated to improving the lives of people living with HIV and those affected by it in the Greater London area. Through our grants programme, we provide financial support to local organizations working in HIV support, prevention, and awareness. Our mission is to foster healthier communities by funding initiatives that reduce stigma, promote understanding, and improve the wellbeing of individuals living with HIV.

Grant Funding Overview

WO distributes funds raised through its charity retail shops and other activities to support groups and organisations whose work aligns with our mission and priorities. We offer two main types of grants: the **Main Grant Programme** and the **Hardship Fund** (administered through service provision charities).

Grant Funding Priorities

To ensure that our funds are used most effectively, we focus on the following six priority themes:

1. **Improving Health and Wellbeing:** Projects that support physical and mental health, access to care, and overall well-being for individuals living with HIV.
2. **Reducing Loneliness, Stigma, and Social Isolation:** Initiatives that address the social challenges and stigma faced by people living with HIV.
3. **Growing the Capacity and Sustainability of Charities:** Support for organisations that aim to build long-term sustainability and enhance their capacity to serve the community.
4. **Providing Support in Times of Crisis:** Activities that offer essential support to individuals and communities during times of urgent need.
5. **Creating Innovative and Positive Interactions with Young People:** Projects that engage young people in raising awareness and fostering positive relationships with individuals affected by HIV.
6. **Creating Community Connections, particularly with underserved communities:** Initiatives that help foster strong community ties and engagement, particularly with BAME groups, to reduce stigma and increase understanding around HIV.

To be considered for funding, your project or activity should align with at least one of the above priority themes.

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for funding, applicants must meet the following criteria:

- **Location:** Your organisation must be based in Greater London or serving individuals or groups within Greater London.
- **Organisational Type:** WO provides funding to registered charities and CICs. While we have previously considered funding support groups or leagues of

friends, we now only fund registered charities to ensure proper governance and financial oversight.

- **Focus Area:** We fund initiatives that support people living with HIV, raise awareness about HIV, or prevent its spread. We do not fund international HIV support and prevention efforts.
- **Exclusions:** We do not fund statutory providers, NHS Trusts, or local council initiatives. However, we recognise that some of our grant recipients are connected with NHS Trusts, and their work supports NHS services.
- **Funding Range:** Grants from £1,500 to £10,000 are available for projects that align with our priorities. Projects typically last for 12 months, although there is flexibility based on the scope and needs of the project.
- **Application Deadline:** The deadline for applications is 31st January each year.

Grant Application Process

1. **Application Form:** Complete the **Grant Application Form** available on our website. Please ensure that all fields are filled out as fully as possible to assist us in evaluating your application.
2. **Supporting Documents:** Submit the following documents alongside your application:
 - A copy of your last two years of annual reports and accounts.
 - The most recent Charity Commission return.
3. **Submit Your Application:** Applications can be submitted via email. If the file size of your reports is too large, you may send hard copies by post.
4. **Decision-Making:** Applications are reviewed by our CEO and funding decisions are made by the Board of Trustees. Decisions will be communicated by 28th February.
5. **Reporting and Evaluation:** Successful applicants are required to submit short progress reports and an annual impact evaluation to ensure that funds are used effectively.

Small Grants Programme (Discontinued)

Please note that the **Small Grants Programme** and the **Fast Track Process** for immediate relief funding have been discontinued. WO now focuses on providing larger, more impactful grants through our Main Grant Programme.

Hardship Fund

WO also provides hardship funding in collaboration with service provision charities to support individuals facing significant financial difficulties. Charities serving individuals in crisis are encouraged to apply for hardship funding as part of their annual grant application. This ensures that those who are most in need receive support through trusted organisations.

Contact Information

If you would like to discuss any aspect of the application process or if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us:

- **Raewyn Jones, Chief Executive**
Email: office@wandsworthoasis.org.uk

Conclusion

Wandsworth Oasis is committed to providing financial support to organisations working to improve the lives of people living with HIV in Greater London. By aligning with our funding priorities and following the application process, your organisation can help make a meaningful difference in the lives of those affected by HIV. We look forward to receiving your application and partnering with you in the fight against HIV-related stigma and inequality.