



TACKLING HOMELESSNESS ACROSS THE GENERATIONS IN BRISTOL

through better family and parenting support

Overall Aims

- ◆ To promote stronger family relationships and parenting skills in homeless families, including teenage mums and dads.
- ◆ To promote practical working links and sign-posting between agencies supporting homeless families and organisations that promote unstigmatised and empowering parenting and family support.
- ◆ To build up evidence for preventative work and whole family approaches in relation to work with homeless families.

Grant Size: Total grant of £50,000 - £200,000 over 2 years

Closing Date: 31st March 2009

Total Fund: £400,000 for distribution¹

Location: Bristol City Council boundaries predominantly

Eligibility: Non-government, not-for-profit organisations working with families
[Applications will NOT be considered from the local authority or other public bodies]

Focus Areas

There are six focus areas as presented in the boxes below. Applicants may apply for one or more of the areas suggested. All applicants will also need to take into consideration the elements listed in *Additional Criteria for all Applications*.

Preventative work

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| 1. Consulting homeless families – particularly those at risk of repeat homelessness - about parenting and family support needs. |
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¹ Please note that applications at the top end of the scale (£150-200k) will need to be able to provide us with a substantial beneficiary base and be accompanied by rigorous monitoring and evaluation.

2. Enabling vulnerable homeless families to benefit from whole family approaches, including longer term therapeutic family interventions for the most fragile.
3. Support for voluntary organisations taking the lead on assessments of children and young people from homeless families (using the CAF format) and to encourage multi-agency monitoring of risk factors.
4. Earlier intervention to support planning for young people to leave home, helping to maintain better family relationships and preventing the need for crisis-point intervention.

Enhanced Services

5. Extending support beyond tenancy sustainment to include building skills in parenting and positive family relationships in homeless families.
6. Work that directly supports teenage parents, particularly through the engagement of fathers, grandparents and other family members in the lives of children who have become homeless.

Additional Criteria for all Applications

- ◆ Making existing resources more effective through better sign-posting, working together, referrals and knowledge sharing.
- ◆ Innovative approaches to family support which result in demonstrable change and improved outcomes for homeless parents and their children.
- ◆ Building on and developing monitoring and evaluation processes to add to the evidence base for early intervention and preventative work.
- ◆ Promoting links between parenting and homelessness services and sharing best practice.
- ◆ Potential for replication or for learning by others organisations.

Exclusions

- Construction projects or capital appeals.
- Overseas work.
- Individual grants or educational fees.
- General appeals (please see the programme priorities listed above).

Application Process

Applicants should ensure that they provide the following information. Proposals should be no more than six sides of A4, excluding an annotated summary budget.

1. Summary of proposal and amount requested (less than 150 words). *Please indicate which of the Focus Areas above (1-6) the application is addressing (include all that apply).*
2. Organisational mission and track record.
3. What are the needs to be addressed, how were they identified and how many people are expected to benefit?
4. Describe the approach you plan to use and how it adds to existing services.

5. Describe how you will work with other local organisations and how your proposal fits with the City Council's Preventing Homelessness Strategy and Parenting Strategy²?
6. Timetable of the work.
7. Outline project management structure (including partnership arrangements, as appropriate) and give relevant qualifications of the key staff involved.
8. Do you know of any research that underpins the work? If so, briefly summarise and say how it has helped in the design, the development of outcomes or indicators with which to monitor the work.
9. Please outline the monitoring and evaluation framework, including tools you will use to measure the differences in family functioning and in homelessness prevention throughout the project.
10. Can you offer help in sharing the lessons from the project through your own communications work?
11. What assurance processes are in place for safeguarding children and managing other risks?
12. Summary Budget with explanatory notes
13. Enclose separately, annual report and audited accounts of the lead organisation for the proposal (this is not required for any additional partner organisations participating or benefitting from the proposed grant).

Assessment of Applications

This is a small fund, so potential applicants are encouraged to contact the Director to discuss the work if you think that it fits the criteria. This is especially true if you feel that you are addressing the objectives of the programme but are not sure whether or not you fit the focus criteria. ACT wants to encourage and help people to apply, but also want to spare organisations the wasted time involved in applying when there is no prospect of gaining a grant.

Applicants might be contacted by the Director after the deadline and in advance of our Trustee meeting when they will be given the opportunity to provide additional information or explanation to issues raised at that time.

The decision of Trustees will be communicated within a week of the trustee meeting, less than 3 months after the deadline.

Please contact me if you have any questions about the criteria or the application process.

Siân Edwards
Director
Andrews Charitable Trust

020-8996 0375
spedwards@andrewscharitabletrust.org.uk

² We can provide PDF copies of both documents, if required. Email the ACT Director at the address below, stating "Request for Bristol Strategy Documents" in the subject line.