



For immediate release:

Islington Giving Covid-19 crisis fund needs even more support as lockdown eases

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These are difficult times for everyone in the borough, and particularly for the most vulnerable – people who are lonely, unwell or struggling with their family or financial situation. Lockdown has put a huge strain on our sense of security, and the mental well-being of us all, but those already living in hardship are going to be disproportionately affected, even as Lockdown eases. Islington Giving is doing all it can to help local organisations who work with them directly.

The Islington Giving Crisis Fund launched at the start of Lockdown. The generosity of Islington's residents, businesses and local and national funders has meant that over £300,000 has been raised and given out. Every penny has gone directly to where it's needed, as Islington Giving's costs are funded by one of its founders.

The money has gone through Islington Council's Residents' Support Scheme to individuals in need of food, or other essentials. It has gone to Help On Your Doorstep to provide phone calls for older and isolated people. It has gone to Company Three to find creative outlets for young people stuck at home.

Over 25 local groups like these have received financial support thanks to the response to this fund.

But still more is needed. Lockdown may be easing, but the crisis isn't yet over. There are questions over the opportunities our young people will have, issues around supporting the mental health of all and pressing needs for those still struggling financially.

All donations to the Islington Giving Crisis Fund will continue to go out to local groups and organisations who are on the cutting edge of these issues.

The fund was set up working closely with the Islington Council as well as key partner organisations from across the borough who work directly with vulnerable people in the community, such as The Claremont Project, whose Social Prescribing programme has proven to reduce isolation among residents in the borough.

Cllr Una O'Halloran, Executive Member for Community Development, said: "This crisis is something we've never seen before. I am so proud to be part of this community in Islington. We are strong together and must support those who are struggling. Our mission is all about fairness and looking out for each other is an important part of that.

"The sad thing is that the crisis is not yet over, and our most vulnerable residents continue to need support getting food, paying utility bills and other essentials. Islington Giving is

doing a fantastic job working with local organisations to support residents facing the greatest hardship and isolation during this crisis. If you can, I encourage you to donate to this fund. No amount is too small and it could make a big difference to someone at this time.”

To contribute to the Islington Giving Crisis Fund please visit: <https://donorbox.org/islington-giving-crisis-fund> or <https://islingtongiving.org.uk/news-events/covid-19-crisis-in-islington>.

About Islington Giving

Islington Giving has been working in Islington for ten years, giving funds and working with over 70 local organisations. We share knowledge, make sure money is well spent and work with the community to relieve the effects of poverty and inequality. Cripplegate Foundation helped to establish Islington Giving in 2010. As well as contributing financially, Cripplegate Foundation manages all Islington Giving grants. To learn more about Islington Giving please visit [Islingtongiving.org.uk](https://islingtongiving.org.uk)

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