

islington
giving



Impact Report
2022

**"We would have a
healthier, happier
society if we were all
prepared to say
'I can give a little'."**

Angela,
Islington Giving Donor

This page: Help
on Your Doorstep,
Good Neighbours
Scheme, 2021

Front cover image:
Young Grant Makers
2022/3



From the Chair

Sarah Lee, Chair of Islington Giving

2022 has been another challenging year for many in Islington. The cost of living crisis has disproportionately affected those on the lowest incomes. The voluntary sector – the backbone of our community – has also faced adversity, with increased demand for support coinciding with their own rising costs.

However, there are many things to be proud of in 2022, not least the way the community has again come together to support our most vulnerable residents. The fantastic response to our crisis appeal enabled us to work closely with our incredible local partners to ensure support reached those who needed it.

We have continued to learn, develop and adapt – both in how we raise funds and how to allocate those funds. It was particularly exciting to see the evolution of our resident-led panels, with the first older person's panel – the Golden Grant Makers. Supporting older people has been a long-standing focus of Islington Giving, so bringing these residents into decision-making processes was an important development.

2022 has also been a year of forward planning. Islington Giving board members, who each bring their experience of the borough, spent time reviewing our goals. Our new strategic priorities aim to give us a strong framework to make lasting change, while retaining flexibility to respond to the complex and changing needs in the borough.



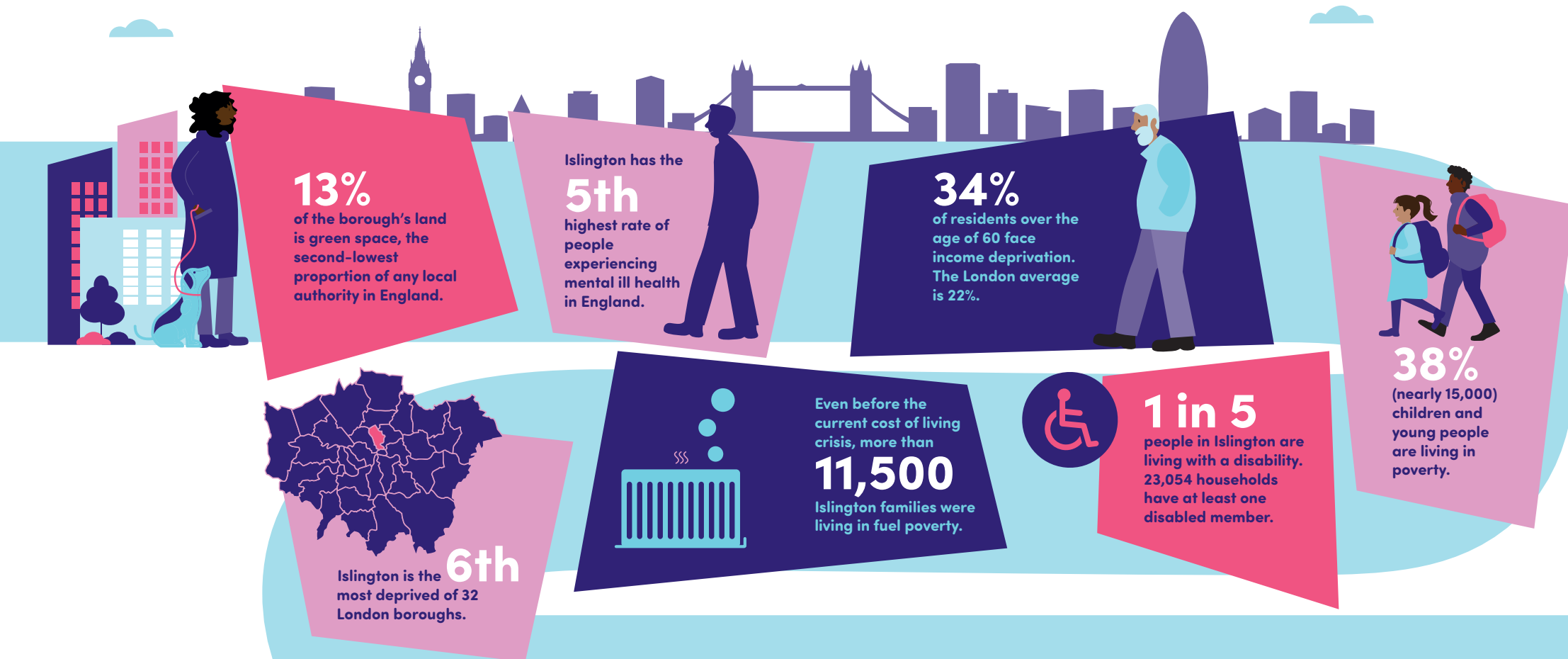
**"There are many
things we can be
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Why Islington?

Islington is a borough of extremes. Alongside huge wealth, almost every ward includes a neighbourhood that falls into the 10% most deprived areas of England. With 243,000 people living in Islington, it is the most densely populated local authority area in England and Wales – more than 37 times the national average.

**“We want to see
a visible change
in Islington.”**

Mariama, Young Grant Maker



Sourced from Trust for London and Islington Council.

"We are so lucky in Islington to have such a connected, collaborative, vibrant voluntary sector."

Lisa Robinson, Director of Fundraising and Communications, Islington Giving



Help on Your Doorstep,
New River Green
Coffee Morning, 2021

Creating a greater sense of community

Islington Giving is a coalition of local people and organisations working together to raise funds, support communities and projects, and connect each other in Islington. We know that when we work together, we can create positive social impact.

Our vision of Islington is a strong, connected community where everyone has the opportunity to live a good life.

With the support of our parent charity, Cripplegate Foundation, we work to bring about change that makes Islington a more equal place.

In 2022, we set our new strategic priorities for the next three years, to help us achieve our mission.

OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Raising funds

We aim to raise funds to support local projects that create a greater sense of a community.

Sharing power

We will continue to share decision making with residents through resident-led grant making and governance roles.

Increasing access

We will work to increase access to opportunities for residents, to help people in Islington live a good life.

Reducing isolation

We will fund programmes that create community connections and reduce isolation.

Sharing learning

We will listen to and learn from our partners, share our learning and work to influence the funding sector positively.



Highlights of 2022

Since 2010 we have raised over £10m to support hundreds of local projects – from micro-grants for inspiring community ideas to multi-year strategic funding to develop innovative models of support and outreach in the borough.

In 2022, we worked with over 80 voluntary sector organisations and residents' groups in Islington. We provide both core funding, to keep the lights on, and project funding to develop new ideas.

Photos: (left to right) YES Outdoors using their new e-cargo bike; North London Cares, Saturday Socials Programme; Chelsea Fringe Community Dog Show

Bringing ideas to life

This year, we launched the Make it Happen fund, in partnership with local housing associations, offering small grants to support local ideas that benefit communities across Islington. Projects covered a wide range of community activities that aimed to bring people together or create new opportunities for residents – from a dog show to creating a therapeutic garden. Read more on page 16.

Going Greener

Thanks to a generous donation, we piloted a Going Greener Fund to support Islington charities to evaluate their environmental impact and find ways to deliver services in greener ways. Seven organisations received grants, including artist-run co-operative Cubitt Artists who used the funding to carry out an energy audit, and YES Outdoors, who used the funding towards the purchase of an electric cargo bike to transport gardening materials and bikes.

Supporting older residents

Growing our existing resident-led grant panels, 2022 saw our first Golden Grant Makers panel take shape. The panel invited applications for work that supports older local people who are isolated to build connections and develop a greater sense of community. Following a tough shortlisting process, the panel awarded £180,000 for eight projects. Read more on page 21.

Responding to local need

Responding to the urgent need our partners were seeing across the borough as energy prices and inflation soared, we launched a cost of living crisis appeal to provide emergency grants to local residents. Thanks to the generosity of local people, businesses and foundations, we raised over £123,000, with 100% of funds going to individuals and families to help pay mounting bills, and to buy food and basic essentials. Read more on page 22.

Our impact

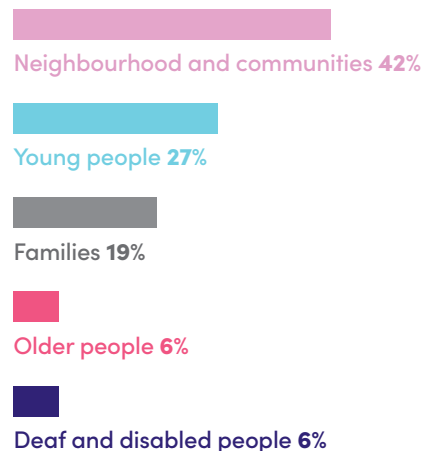
We are proud to work with a wide range of amazing people and organisations in Islington. More than just the number of grants made, we think it is how we work with our community that really matters. We are constantly striving to improve the ways we listen to and work with our partners.

£1.3m
raised

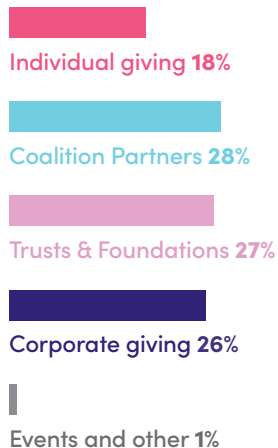
106
Projects
Funded

81
Organisations
supported

WHO THE GRANTS SUPPORTED



FUNDS RAISED

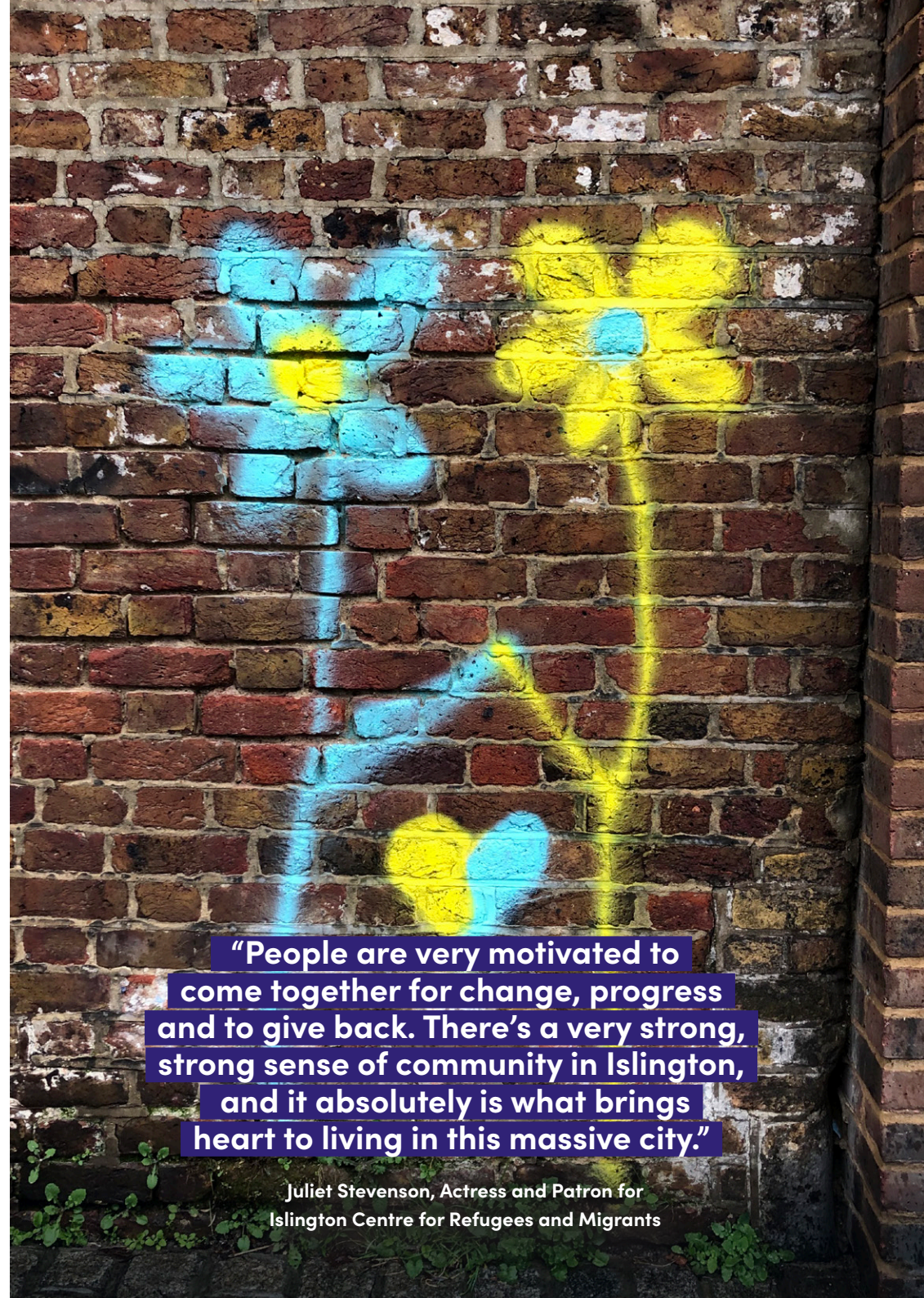


Cripplegate Foundation covers all administration and staff costs of Islington Giving.



100%

of the money we raise is spent on local projects.



"People are very motivated to come together for change, progress and to give back. There's a very strong, strong sense of community in Islington, and it absolutely is what brings heart to living in this massive city."

Juliet Stevenson, Actress and Patron for Islington Centre for Refugees and Migrants

Map of grantees



All funded groups (2022)

Abianda	Islington Bangladesh Association
Action Youth Boxing Intervention	Islington Centre for Refugees and Migrants
Age UK Islington	Islington Law Centre
All Change	Islington Mind
Arco – Music for All	Jannaty Women's Social Society
Artbox	Kinship
Bags of Taste	Local Village Network
Body & Soul	London Symphony Orchestra
Brandon Centre	Maa Shanti
Breakin' Convention	Manor Gardens Welfare Trust
City and Islington College	Mary's Youth Club
Claremont Project	National Youth Theatre
Community Language Support Services	Newington Green Action Group
Cook for Good	No Recourse to Public Funds Team
Creative Opportunities	People's Place Community Partnership
Cubitt Artists	Scary Little Girls Association
Daylight Studio	School-Home Support
The BIG Alliance	SEN Family Saturdays
Eat Club	SoapBox
Eritrean Youth Club	St Luke's Parochial Trust
Families First Local Authority Team	St Mary's Hornsey Rise
Fully Focused	The Maya Centre
Galbur Foundation	The Parent House
Global Generation	Pleasance Theatre Trust
Help on Your Doorstep	YES Outdoors
Hillside Clubhouse	Plus all groups funded through the Make it Happen micro-grants programme
Home-Start Camden & Islington	
Isledon Arts	



**“Body & Soul have
been a lifeline to me
and my mental health.”**

Young person engaging with
Body & Soul

Partner spotlights

Body & Soul

Body & Soul uses a community-based approach to address the life-threatening effects of childhood trauma, helping young people rediscover their identity and build the resilience they need to transform their lives.

Islington Giving has been supporting Body & Soul’s work on suicide prevention since 2016. This has included support to develop the pioneering You Are Not Alone (YANA) programme, which has now received funding to expand outside of Islington.

YANA supports young people at risk of suicide using a Dialectical Behaviour Therapy approach to teach practical coping techniques over a 24-week course. Taking a whole person approach, the programme also provides support and advice on wide-ranging practical issues, and helps young people to thrive by building a ‘scaffolding for life’. This includes 1:1 calls, additional therapy sessions and a range of enriching workshops, from dance and music to creating a community mural.

Funding from Islington Giving in 2022 also supported the pilot of Braver Together. This project builds on the work of YANA by developing support for parents, carers and family members of young people at risk of suicide, and so working to strengthen their support networks.

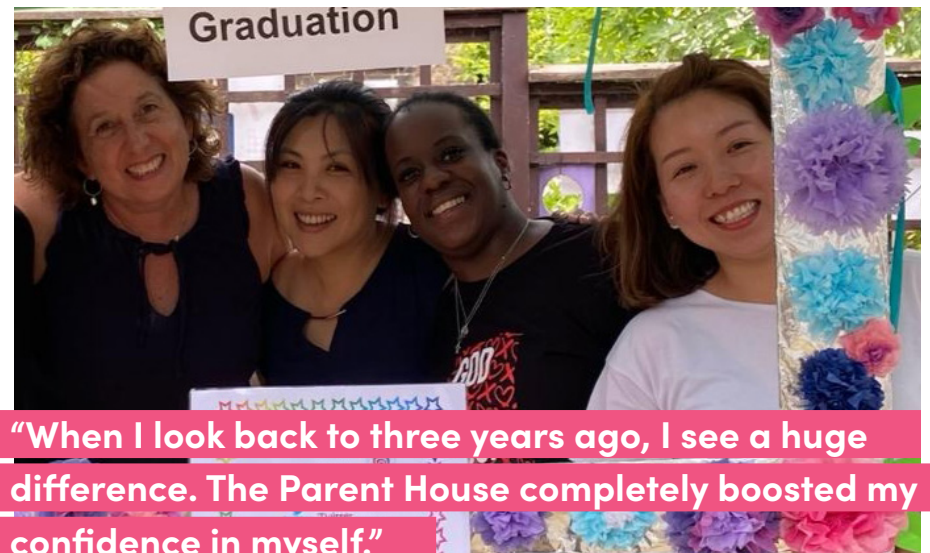
The Parent House

Through tailored support, training courses, volunteering opportunities and mentoring, The Parent House supports vulnerable families in Islington to build connections and grow in confidence.

Islington Giving has been working with The Parent House since 2010, and has supported the development of peer support programmes, mentoring and community outreach. Peer support enables parents to learn from each other, improve their support networks and access local services, equipping them with the skills to make positive changes and improve life options for their children.

Parents who engage with the programme feel better able to cope, and a high proportion go on to access further training or enter employment.

In the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic, many parents were concerned about their children’s schooling and mental health. A grant from the Islington Giving Family Panel in 2022 supported The Parent House to develop a peer consultation programme focused on enabling parents to better support their children’s education by sharing experiences on mental health and wellbeing, and running workshops on how best to support school learning and navigate school communication channels.



“When I look back to three years ago, I see a huge difference. The Parent House completely boosted my confidence in myself.”

Parent engaging with The Parent House



Grants supported a wide range of inspiring ideas from dog shows to a sensory garden, and street parties to pole dancing courses!

Make it Happen

The Make it Happen fund offers small grants to support local people with ideas that contribute towards a healthier, happier and more connected community.

At Islington Giving, we believe that everyone in Islington has a role to play in making the borough the best place to live. We are passionate about supporting residents to access the resources they need to create new opportunities and make positive change.

In 2021, working with our coalition partner Peabody Community Foundation, we created the Make it Happen fund. Offering grants to up to £500, the fund aimed to enable local people to lead on what is important to them, kickstarting community action and development – and bringing joy to our community in the process.

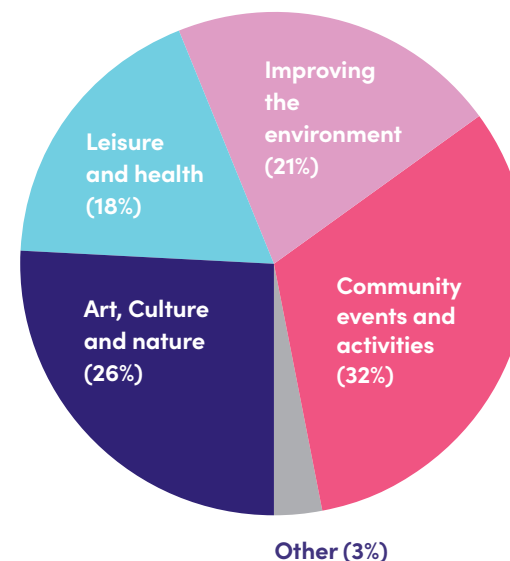
We knew that by working alongside Peabody and other local housing associations – Newlon Housing Trust, Southern Housing Group, Hyde Housing – we could extend the reach of this project into every corner of the borough.

“Above all, we are aware of the power of small grants to kickstart local community action – helping local people to lead on what they identify as important for them and bringing a little bit of joy and happiness to our community in the process.”

Patrick Jones,
Programme Manager,
Islington Giving

In 2022, 33 grants were awarded across two rounds, with a total of £16,405 distributed. Funding decisions were made with the help of five local residents, helping to inform the panel’s choices and share power with the community.

Projects by theme:



Participant of She Can Empower pole dancing course

Continuing the programme into 2023, we will:

Reach residents not currently accessing the funding and increase resident involvement in decision making.

Offer further support to grantees who want to access additional funding to develop their projects.

Welcome Clarion Futures as a partner in the fund.



Ten years of partnership with Macquarie

In 2022, we celebrated ten years of working with our coalition partner, the Macquarie Group Foundation.

During this time, Macquarie has contributed over £1m to Islington Giving, fostering innovative approaches to local need and helping to support hundreds of community projects.

Macquarie has an ethos of supporting the communities in which their employees live and work. Working in partnership with Islington Giving provides a collaborative way to leverage local knowledge, share expertise and have a meaningful impact in the community.

ESTABLISHING THE BIG ALLIANCE TOGETHER

In 2012, Macquarie and Islington Giving established the Businesses for Islington Giving (BIG) Alliance with the East London Business Alliance (ELBA). The aim was to connect businesses with local charities and to mobilise employee volunteering. To date, the partnership has leveraged the support of almost 90 businesses and facilitated the time, expertise and skills of over 12,400 volunteers for local community projects. Through the CoRe programme, over 450 employees from Macquarie, Slaughter and May and Expedia have used their skills and expertise to transform the capacity and sustainability of over 120 local charities. 1,800 students in Islington have also benefitted from the Mentoring Works programme so far.



The BIG Alliance, Mentoring Works Celebration

We believe that by partnering with organisations who know the borough and the know the issues – we’re going to have the most impact. In my opinion, it’s not good enough for a corporate to arrive in a community, parachute in and decide what the issues are. We need to be signposted, to collaborate and invest for a better future.”

Rachel Engel, Regional Head, Macquarie Group Foundation

YOUNG JOBS PROGRAMME SPOTLIGHT

Islington is a place full of opportunity, but many young people feel unable to access these opportunities. A project developed in partnership with Macquarie provides work placements for local young people, enabling them to gain experience, build skills and develop their networks.

In the first two years of the programme, 39 work placements were facilitated through three local organisations: Local Village Network, People’s Place Community Partnership and SoapBox Youth Hub. Placements included a number with local marketing and communications agency Open Creates, where some students had the exciting opportunity to work on a UNICEF campaign in the lead up to COP-26.

“It has taught me a lot about the field and their day-to-day tasks which helped me to think about the route I would like to take after college.”

Student on placement with Open Creates



Scan the QR code to hear about our work with Macquarie from Rachel Engel.

Islington is the most densely populated borough in the UK and has just 13% green space. Macquarie and other business volunteers help to upgrade and maintain the 12 adventure playgrounds in Islington each year, which provide over 1,500 children with safe, green and fun spaces to play.



Sharing power

At Islington Giving we believe that the people who access and take part in the projects we fund should be able to help us make decisions about how our grants are awarded.

5
years

81
residents

£870k
awarded



Erica, Golden Grant Maker 2022

Golden Grant Makers

Continuing our journey of resident-led grant-making, in 2022 we ran our first Golden Grant Makers panel.

The panel, made up of five local residents aged between 60 and 80-years old, designed a funding programme for work that enriches the lives of Islington's older residents. With a total of £180,000 of funding available, the panellists invited applications for projects that enabled older residents to build connections and develop a greater sense of community.

We are a group of Islington residents who have joined Islington Giving to shape this funding programme. We want to fund work that identifies local older people who are isolated and lonely, and builds social, emotional and community support.

The call for applications

Proposals were received from over 40 applicants – totaling over £1 million in costs – showcasing a high demand for projects supporting older residents in the borough. The panel made final funding decisions in February 2023 and eight organisations received a share of the funding.

"It has made me think about things a lot more – what is available in the community, the way we view others, and has challenged some of my assumptions."

Young Grant Makers

2022 marked the fifth year of our Young Grant Makers. Each year, twelve young people run a funding programme to support projects that benefit young people in Islington. As part of the five-month programme, the panel receive training, and build employability skills and experience. Seven organisations received funding through the Young Grant Makers programme in 2022.



Expanding resident involvement

We are excited to be taking the first steps towards developing a group of resident experts with residents who have previously taken part in participatory grant making through Islington Giving. As well as supporting our panel members' own ambitions through training and development opportunities, we hope the group will become a long-term resource for the community.

The need

75%

increase in referrals to foodbanks from 2021-2022.

(Help on Your Doorstep)



350%

increase in utilities advice requests from January-December 2022.

(Citizens Advice Islington)



65%

of people accessing support with food and fuel costs are women.

(Help on Your Doorstep)



The cost of living crisis

In 2022 spiralling costs pushed more residents in Islington into devastating poverty and debt.

As energy prices rocketed through the winter, families were having to make choices between heating their homes and putting food on the table. Many of our partners, including Help on Your Doorstep – who work with some of the most vulnerable and isolated residents in the borough – saw huge increases in the demand for their services.

Thanks to the incredible response of local people and businesses, we were able to raise over £123,000 by the end of 2022.

Working with trusted local partners, this enabled us to provide over 300 emergency grants of between £150 and £600 to individuals and families in urgent need. The grants have helped local residents to pay water and fuel debts, replace faulty white goods, buy warm clothes for children and much more.

What the grant meant to Suzie



Suzie is a single parent who is struggling financially. She relies on foodbanks for her family and has developed a high level of anxiety from the mounting utility bills that she cannot pay. A grant helped her to pay off her water debt and enabled her to buy a warm duvet, relieving some of her anxiety and helping the family to stay warm.

Thank you to everyone who donated, and to our partners who helped us reach those in need of grants, including: Age UK Islington, Help on Your Doorstep, The Parent House, Manor Gardens, Islington Centre for Refugees and Migrants, Community Language Support Services, Newington Green Action Group, Islington Law Centre, St Luke's Community Centre, The Manna, Islington People's Rights, Islington Mind and IMECE Women's Centre.

"Hello, just letting you know that the grant was just paid into my account. Thank you so much, this has taken a huge weight off of my shoulders! Paying off this debt means Xmas is now possible for my kids."

Text message from
Help on Your Doorstep client

Our response

£123,226

raised to support local people.



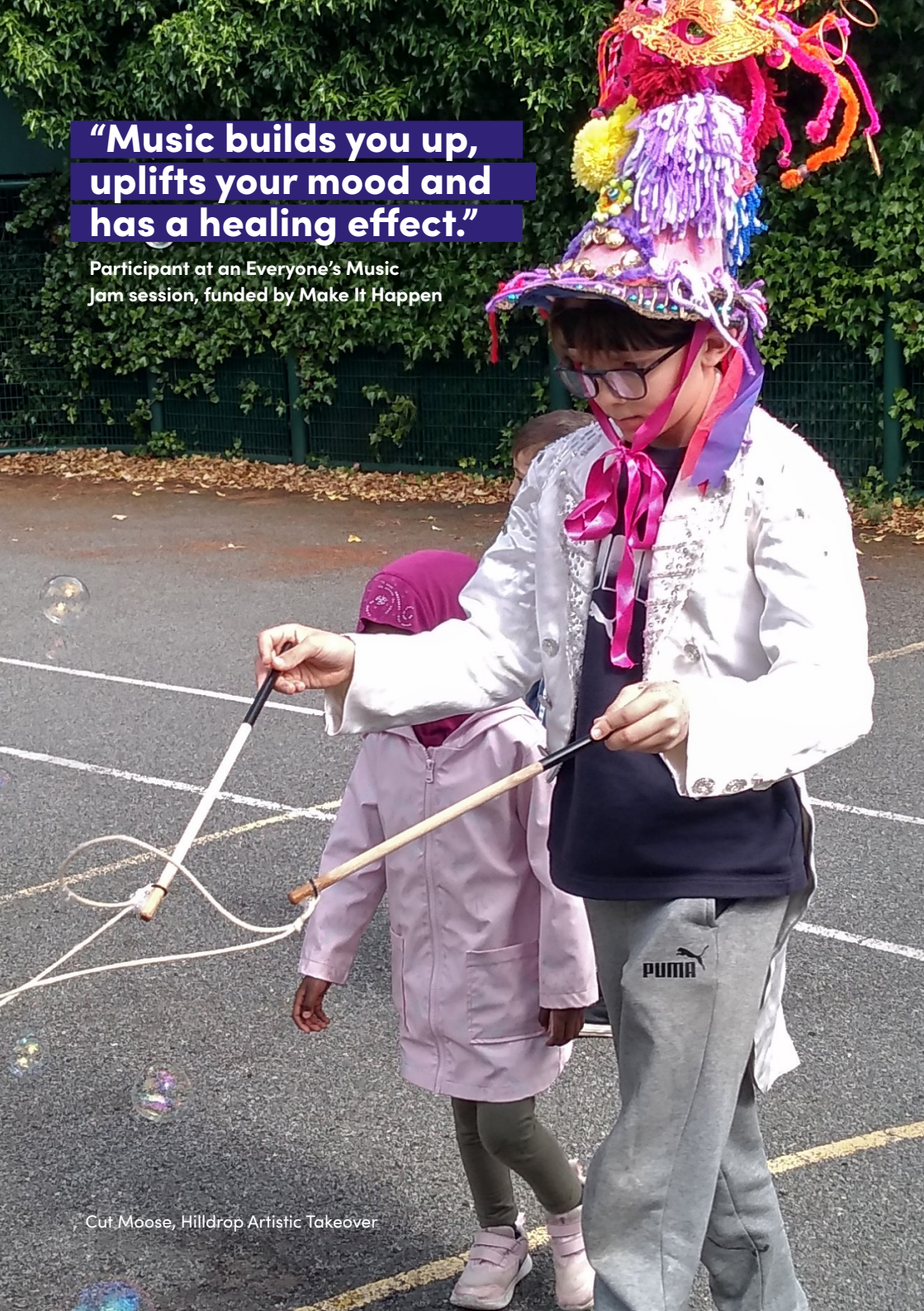
Over

300

local people and families supported with grants between £150 and £600.



Scan the QR code to find out more about the appeal and hear from groups who distributed the grants.



**“Music builds you up,
uplifts your mood and
has a healing effect.”**

Participant at an Everyone's Music
Jam session, funded by Make It Happen

Cut Moose, Hilldrop Artistic Takeover



Looking forward – what 2023 holds

Anne Shewring, Programme Director

Our plans for 2023 build on the priorities we set in 2022. This includes raising more funds to support local projects that increase access to opportunities, reduce isolation and create connections between residents in Islington. Importantly, we will also continue to develop how we share decision-making with local people.

As a result of identifying a gap in our funding, we will be launching a new programme to support projects working with adults who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

As part of our ongoing response to the cost of living crisis, and thanks to additional funding from a corporate supporter, we will be working with the Islington Food Partnership to distribute grants to support over 30 food projects.

We will continue to support the personal aspirations of residents through our Catalyst Programme, which offers grants to support people to do something which brings them joy or supports them to access a new opportunity.

In partnership with several housing associations, we are excited to be rolling out new rounds of the Make it Happen fund, piloted successfully in 2022.

Having celebrated our ten-year partnership with Macquarie this year, we are looking forward to embarking on the next ten. This will include building on the Young Jobs programme and the BIG Alliance programme.

We will run two more resident-led panels and, with funding from City Bridge Trust, will explore how we can create a group of local resident experts to support our grant-making (see page 21).

Our supporters

We are grateful to our dedicated partners for their ongoing support and collaboration

Our Coalition Partners

Peabody Community Foundation

Macquarie Group
Foundation

Cripplegate Foundation

City Bridge Trust

Cloudesley

The Morris Charitable Trust
(Business Design Centre)

Paul Hamlyn Foundation

Co-op Foundation

Welcome to the Co-op Foundation

We were delighted to welcome the Co-op Foundation as a coalition partner in 2022. The Co-op Foundation joined the Islington Giving board at an exciting time, as we developed our strategy for 2022–24 and expanded our resident-led grant making. We have enjoyed sharing our approach to local philanthropy, which we hope will provide valuable insights to the Foundation to be replicated on a national level.

Other key supporters

Islington Council

Arsenal Foundation

National Lottery
Community Fund

The Mercers' Company

The Black Hill Charitable Trust

Liz Airey and Paul Murray
Charitable Trust

Google.org

Argent

Hyde Housing

Clarion Futures

Southern Housing Group

Newlon Housing Trust

Frederick's

Neilson & Bauer Estate Agents

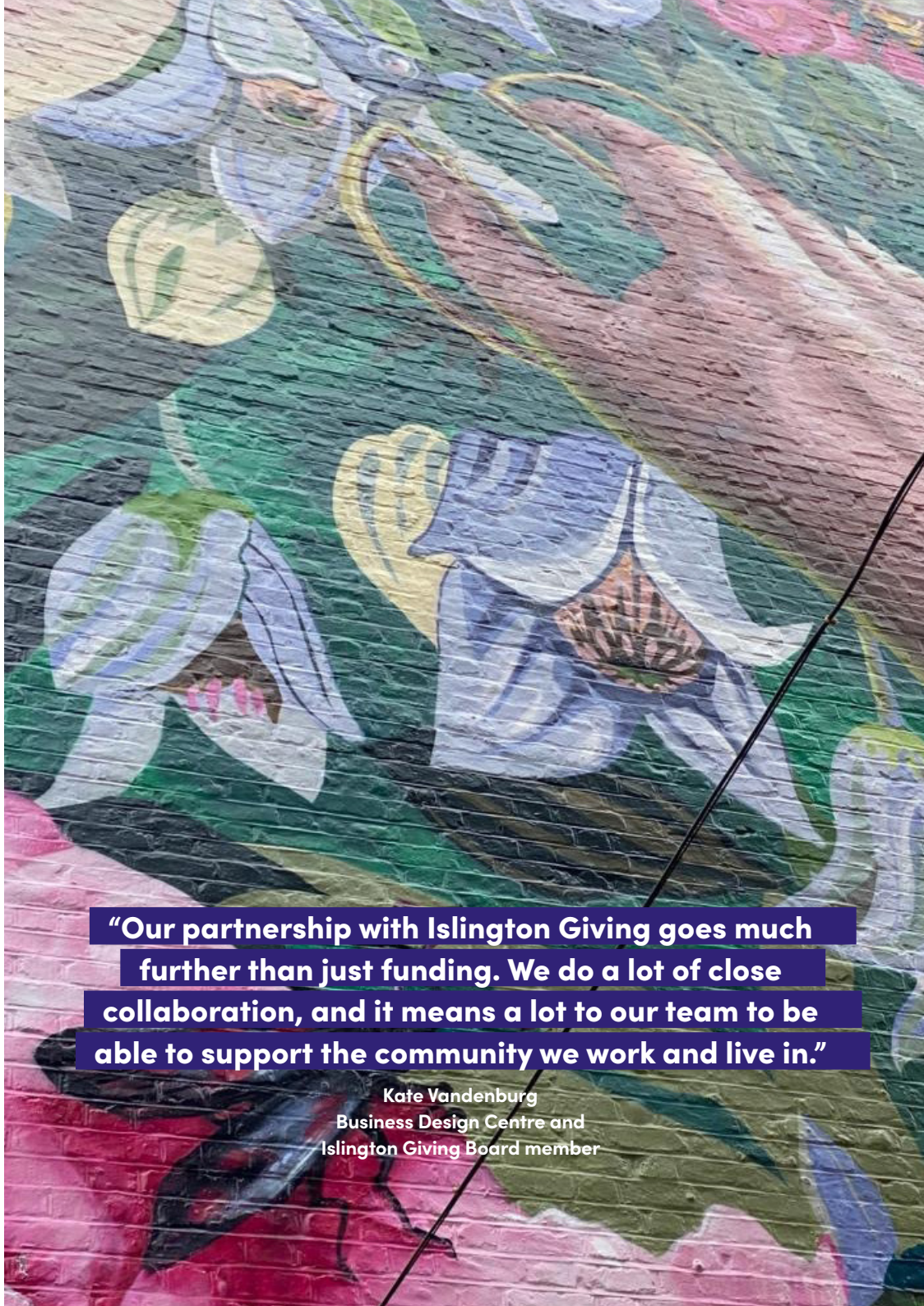
Angel Comedy Club

Euromonitor

Central District Alliance

THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to our work at Islington Giving over the past year. Every donation makes a huge difference in the borough.



"Our partnership with Islington Giving goes much further than just funding. We do a lot of close collaboration, and it means a lot to our team to be able to support the community we work and live in."

Kate Vandenburg
Business Design Centre and
Islington Giving Board member

"Working with Islington Giving has made a real difference to what we've been able to achieve. Their professional approach, deep-rooted local knowledge and connections with residents has increased the number of people we can reach and added value to the fund."

Stephen Burns, Executive Director, Peabody



For further information please visit:

www.islingtongiving.org.uk

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  Islington Giving

Islington Giving is a restricted fund of Cripplegate Foundation,
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