**Golden Grantmakers Older People’s Panel**

**Information pack**

**Summary**

Islington Givingis committed to supporting residents as part of its work to tackle poverty, inequality and isolation in Islington.

**Islington Giving is looking for eight local older residents** (we are likely to prioritise people over 65 but any resident over the age of 55 can apply) to come together **to make decisions about investing £120,000** of Islington Giving’s grants budget in **local projects that aim to provide more opportunities for older people** to come together, have fun, build connections and tackle isolation.

**Islington Giving**

Islington is a borough of stark contrasts – a place where great wealth sits alongside hidden poverty. Islington Giving was set up in 2010 to address these issues and create opportunities for people in Islington. It is a partnership that brings together residents, businesses, community organisations and funders to make a real difference in the Borough.

Islington Giving currently supports over 100 local projects across three core themes:

* Investing in Young People
* Supporting Families
* Reaching Isolated People.

All our work aims to open up opportunities for people to enjoy life and socialise, to build skills and possibilities and to make connections with each other and services.

**Why resident grant making panels?**In recent years, we have asked groups of residents to help us make decisions about how we spend our money. Residents know what makes a good service. Your life-experiences complement the expertise of our programme team, so help us to make better decisions.

Building on the success of Islington Giving’s first Golden Grant Makers resident led funding programme which completed earlier this year, Islington Giving is now asking a new cohort of local older residents to join us in giving away £120,000 to local projects that provide activities and support to older people living in Islington.

**Who can be involved?**

Islington Giving wants to recruit eight local older residents to help decide how best to spend the grants budget.

No previous experience is necessary - we don’t expect you to have done anything like this before. We want to meet residents who have ideas about what they would like to see and participate in and who want to get involved in making a positive difference to their borough.

**We are looking for people who:**

* live in Islington
* are over 55 (with priority likely given to those who are over 65)
* have a desire / enthusiasm to effect change in their local community
* have some experience of the issues being addressed i.e. social or financial isolation, mental and/or physical ill-health, or may have experienced problems accessing quality services and activities at times and places that work for them
* can commit to participating in the whole programme (likely to be 7 x 2/3 hour weekly meetings between November 2023 and the end of January 2024)
* are interested in how funding decisions are made and willing to engage in detailed discussions
* are willing to work as part of a team to share ideas and reach common goals.

Panel members will be selected on the above criteria. Consideration will also be given to ensuring there are a range of people with different skills and experiences on the Panel and to bringing voices to the Panel who are not usually heard. If this sounds like you then please consider applying.

**What will you be committing to?**

* You will need to be available to attend up to seven meetings between November 2023 and January 2024, with some additional time for reading between some meetings (the bulk of which is likely to be over the Christmas period).
* Organisations will apply for funding and the Panel will read and assess the applications against criteria that have also been shaped by local older residents. The Panel will then shortlist and decide which projects to fund.

You will be fully supported by the Islington Giving programme team who will help everyone through the process.

**All Panel meetings will take place at Islington Giving’s office - 13 Elliott's Place, London N1 8HX. Breaks and refreshments will be provided.**

**How will you be rewarded for your participation?**

You will have two options to choose from in relation to how you would like to be rewarded for your involvement in the programme:

1. Payment at the London Living Wage (currently £11.95 an hour) for your involvement to include:
* attending up to seven 2/3 hour Panel meetings
* 6 hours for reading and reviewing applications.

Amounting to a total of 22 hours. If paid @ £11.95 per hour this amounts to £263

Please note that this will be the ***maximum*** amount you will be paid for your involvement based on attending all meetings. It also includes six additional hours allocated for reading and reviewing applications. The total amount paid may therefore be lower if you do not attend all meetings or in the event that less meetings are required.

1. You can opt to receive a gift up to the equivalent value of the hourly rate (£263) that Islington Giving will buy for you as a thank you for your participation.

Islington Giving is able to signpost you to independent professional advice if you have concerns about receiving additional payments on top of any other support you may be receiving e.g. Pension Credits.

**Further support to help maximise participation**

We are keen to offer support or find alternative ways for people to engage with the content if this might prove problematic. For example, please let us know if you need additional support around reading.

People with disabilities are encouraged to apply and we ask where possible to talk to us beforehand so we can discuss with you the best way we can support your engagement. You will also have the option of being reimbursed for any money spent on enabling you to take part on the Panels, for example travel expenses to attend meetings.

**If you are interested, or know anyone who might be interested, but have further questions or would like to discuss the opportunity before deciding to apply then you or they can contact** **patrick.jones@cripplegate.org.uk** **or 0207 288 6948 to find out more.**

**How to apply**

If you are interested in becoming a Golden Grantmaker Panel member:

1. **Complete the expression of interest form** and post or email it to Patrick Jones – 13 Elliott's Place, London N1 8HX - patrick.jones@cripplegate.org.uk. If completing the form might be difficult, please feel free to contact Patrick Jones on 020 7288 6948 to discuss your interest.
2. The next step is for us to have a phone conversation with you about your application – to find out a little bit more about you and answer any questions. This will give you and us the chance to see whether the programme is right for you.
3. If we have more applicants than the eight places available, we will use the information gleaned from your form and phone conversation against the criteria outlined above to select the Panel. If there are more people than places, with your permission, we will keep your contact details for future Panels.

Below is a draft timetable for the programme. We will finalise meeting dates once the Panel has been recruited but the final meeting in January 2024 is likely to be week commencing 22 January 2024.

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| **What?** | **Time commitment** | **Description** | **When** |
| 1st Panel Meeting | 2 hours | An introduction to Islington Giving and the Golden Grant Makers Programme, understanding Islington context and work to date in shaping the programme  | Week commencing 13 November 2023,10.30am-12.30pm |
| 2nd Panel meeting | 2 hours | Training – how to assess applications: Understanding the Open Call priorities and criteria and begin to think about assessing applications  | Week commencing 20 November 2023,10.30am-12.30pm |
| 3rd Panel meeting  | 2 hours | Further preparation for assessing applications | Week commencing 27 November 2023,10.30am-12.30pm |
| 4PthP Panel meeting  | 3 hours  | Reviewing applications and assess fit against criteria and priorities. Positives and negatives of each application and begin shortlisting process  | Week commencing 11 December 2023,10.30am-1.30pm |
| ***Read applications***  | ***Depends on number of applicants*** | ***Panel members will have the period over Christmas to read submitted applications*** | ***11 Dec – 8 Jan 2024*** |
| 5th Panel meeting  | 2 hours  | Begin assessment and further shortlisting  | Week commencing 8 January 2024, 10.30am-12.30pm |
| 6th Panel meeting  | 2 hours  | Finalise shortlisting and/or interview shortlisted applicants  | Week commencing 15 January 2024,10.30am-12.30pm |
| 7th Panel meeting | 3 hours  | Final decision-making  | Week commencing 22 January 2024,10.30am-1.30pm |