

## Islington Giving Golden Grant Makers Funding

### Application Guidelines

Older people have told us that they appreciate much of what the borough has to offer but many of our most isolated older residents need more support to access what is already available. They identified the following barriers that need to be overcome:

- **Financial – more affordable access to opportunities including physical exercise and fun activities, lifelong learning including access to nature and more trips within and beyond Islington.**
- **Advice – needs to be more accessible. Face-to-face, delivered in other languages where needed, with housing issues identified as the biggest area of concern.**
- **Services and support delivered where older people already meet and/or where they live.**
- **Access to information – more connected services and a hub where older people can access all the information about what advice and support is on offer in one place.**
- **More support to access information – with a particular focus on digital/online accessibility.**

### A funding call for applications that seek to support Islington's older residents

This is the second open call for funding through Islington Giving's Golden Grantmakers programme. In developing this call Islington Giving has consulted widely with local older people – taking into account local knowledge and the direct experiences of older people living in Islington.

Having engaged a wide range of local older residents to help shape this open call, Islington Giving has recently recruited a Panel of up to eight local older residents who will make grant decisions on funding applications that seek to benefit Islington's older residents. This residents' panel is called: Golden Grantmakers.



This document provides guidance for interested organisations. It is intended to help you (1) decide whether this call is right for you, and (2) frame the content of your application if you do decide to apply.

**The focus for this funding is on overcoming the barriers that prevent some of our most isolated older residents from accessing much of what is already available locally. Residents have told us that they want to fund projects that proactively identify older residents and help overcome barriers for those who, for whatever reason, may struggle to access support or attend activities locally – helping them to live more fulfilled lives. This acknowledges that those most likely to benefit from support are also least likely to access it.**

There must be an emphasis on identifying older people who are isolated or lonely and not currently accessing support or attending activities locally. **This could include one-to-one support, chaperoning and befriending that increases trust, confidence, and motivation to get residents out of their homes and socialising.**

The total budget for this funding call is £120,000. We hope to fund projects of different scope and scale and welcome applications for smaller projects. Funding can be for one year or multiyear (up to a maximum of three years) but the **maximum** for an individual grant – whether for one or more years – is likely to be around **£25,000**.

## **What we are looking for – our criteria**

We are open to a range of project ideas and suggestions, but projects must:

- Be for residents living in Islington who are aged 55 or over.
- Be free or low-cost.
- Offer support and activities that address barriers to participation including the ability to identify and gain the trust of older residents who are not currently accessing support or local activities. Projects must therefore have clear plans for how they will reach and proactively engage isolated people/communities who do not know what support is available or may lack the confidence or motivation to access it.
- Identify and support people to overcome any unmet needs. This means being aware of other complementary support on offer and to ensure more joined-up services that respond to resident need holistically.

The Panel will prioritise projects that:

- Are free to access and fun to take part in with a focus on accessible exercise, lifelong learning, trips within and beyond Islington.

- Provide accessible advice while prioritising housing advice and support – which older residents have repeatedly told us they are most concerned about.
- Support residents to become more digitally connected.
- Go to where older people are – this could be where they live such as supported living / residential homes, day centres or one-to-one support at people’s homes.
- Build trust, confidence, and motivation to access wider support.
- Can demonstrate connections with, and able to promote, all services and activities that benefit older residents locally.
- Are from organisations already operating in Islington that can offer longer term sustained benefits beyond the funded project.

**We are particularly interested to hear how people with mental and physical disabilities and older residents who may not speak English as a first language will benefit from proposed projects. We also want to fund projects that provide activities at times and places when other things might not be happening as it is often at these times when feelings of isolation and loneliness are exacerbated.**

## Your Outcomes

By funding projects through this call, we are aiming to make a positive difference to the lives of Islington’s most isolated older residents. We are interested to hear from you about what outcomes your project hopes to achieve but projects must help residents overcome barriers to access and, in the process, become healthier and more connected.

## Who can apply?

Proposals do not have to be for new or innovative projects. We will give equal consideration to tried and tested activities or approaches, particularly those that can be further extended to different times or venues. Islington Giving prioritises support for organisations already based in Islington. If you are based out of the borough you will need to demonstrate that you have excellent local knowledge and links.

To be eligible to apply your organisation must:

- Be a constituted charity, Charitable Incorporated Organisation, Community Interest Company or Social Enterprise/not for profit company limited by guarantee,
- Have a management committee/Board of Directors made up of a minimum of three people, **all of whom must be unrelated,**
- Have a bank account,
- And have a set of signed accounts from the previous financial year.



Please note that the programme will not fund:

- **Organisations that were awarded funding through the first round of Golden Grantmakers funding earlier this year**
- Statutory services
- Advancement of religion and religious groups, unless they offer non-religious activities and support to the wider community
- Commercial or for-profit activities
- Work that has already taken place

## How to apply

Complete an online application form. To access the form please click [here](#). If you need help completing this form, please contact the Programme Manager, Patrick Jones (contact details below).

There will be a two-stage assessment process. It is likely that the Golden Grantmakers will shortlist a maximum of ten applications. Please note, Islington Giving usually receives between 30 and 40 applications for each of its funding programmes. In the last Golden Grantmakers funding round seven projects were awarded funding. Do bear this in mind when deciding whether or not to apply and be sure your project meets the criteria outlined above. If you are shortlisted, the Golden Grantmakers may wish to discuss your project in more detail and will follow up on any points that they think need further clarification.

## Timeline

- Application forms should be submitted by **12 noon on Monday 11 December 2023**.
- Shortlisted applicants may be invited for a further assessment meeting with the Golden Grant Makers between **8 January – 22 January 2024**.
- Applicants will be informed of decisions to award grants by **Friday 10 February 2024**.

## If Your Application is Successful

**The Golden Grantmakers will make all the final decisions on which grants to award.** Once you have been notified of the Golden Grantmakers' decision to fund your project you will be sent Islington Giving's Terms and Conditions – which you will be required to read and sign.



Funded organisations will be required to keep financial records of how the grant is spent and to provide annual feedback on progress and learning including a final report following the completion of the project.

Successful organisations will also be asked to provide publicly accessible examples of their work (e.g. case studies, photographs, blog posts) and **must** be willing to act as ambassadors and supporters of the *Islington Giving* campaign, with imaginative ideas for how this can be achieved.

### **About 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.

Please see the *Islington Giving* website [www.islingtongiving.org.uk](http://www.islingtongiving.org.uk) for further details of our work.

Please contact Patrick Jones – [patrick.jones@cripplegate.org.uk](mailto:patrick.jones@cripplegate.org.uk) –Tel: 020 7288 6948 if you have any specific questions.

**The deadline for applications is 12 noon on Monday 11 December 2023**