

The City Bridge Trust

Bridging Divides: Application for a grant



About your organisation

Organisation Details

Name of your organisation: Advocacy In Greenwich	
If your organisation is part of a larger organisation, what is its name?	
In which London Borough is your organisation based? Greenwich	
Contact person: Ms Anita Rickard	Position: Project Manager
Website: http://www.advocacyingreenwich.org .uk	Social Media Accounts: @advocacyingreen
What Quality Marks does your organisation currently hold? Advocacy Quality Performance Mark, Disability Confident, Association of Quality Checkers	

Legal Status

Legal status of organisation: Registered Charly			
Charity Number: 1009787	Company Number:	CIC Number:	Bencom Number:
When was your organisation established? 13/03/1992			
Aims of your organisation: To assist and support disabled people within the area of benefit, In particular by providing them with a range of advocacy services, with a focus on people with a learning disability and to work strategically to influence policy and practice. We want everyone to have rights, choices and chances; to be able to say what they want and to be heard and to be part of the community. We work together with people with learning disabilities to make this happen			

Main activities of your organisation:

We work with people with a learning disability, mainly in the Royal Borough of Greenwich but also across London. We share our learning with projects and work taking place nationally in order to improve the lives of people with a learning disability. Many people we work with have complex communication and we use multi-media resources to support people to make choices.

Our offer includes:

Independent One to one advocacy:- under the Care Act; for men with learning disabilities leaving prison; for parents with a learning disability where there are child protection concerns.

Self advocacy groups- Safe Places Project, Health Project, Employment Ambassadors, People's Parliament- elected MPs representing their peers at decision making meetings locally and nationally. London Forum for people with a learning disability. Accessible Learning Disability Awareness Training.

Promoting advocacy through workshops

Supporting people to develop skills and to have paid and voluntary roles within the organisation

Supporting people with learning disabilities to take on leadership roles locally, regionally.

Your Staff & Volunteers

Full-time:	Part-time:	Trustee/Board members:	Active volunteers:
1	8	3	1

Do you have a Safeguarding policy? **No**

Are the following people in your organisation subject to DBS checks?

Paid Staff Yes	Volunteers Yes	Trustees / Management Committee Members Yes
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Property occupied by your organisation

Is the main property owned, leased or rented by your organisation?	If leased/rented, how long is the outstanding agreement?
Rented	6 months notice on either side

Environmental Impact**What action have you taken in the past year to progress environmentally sustainability principles and practice?**

Our office has a sensory lighting system so lights are activated when staff move around the office.

Our office is in a building which recycles most items.

We are in the process of moving from paper systems to electronic systems.

We encourage staff to use public transport or cycle where possible.

Finance Details

Organisation Finances

	Year of most recent audited / examined accounts	Current financial year forecast	Next financial year budget
End of financial year date	31/03/2017	31/03/2019	
Grants & donations:	£254,534	£171,891	£0
Earned income:	£0	£0	£0
Other income:	£119	£0	£0
Total income:	254,653	£171,891	£0
Charitable activity costs:	£226,351	£185,091	£0
Cost of raising funds:	£0	£0	£0
Other costs:	£950	£900	£0
Total expenditure:	£227,301	£185,991	£0
Free unrestricted reserves held at year end:	£44,850	£39,000	£0
<p>What is your organisation's reserves policy? In the 2016 -17 accounts we had agreed to set aside £25,000 for unforeseen circumstances but this has recently been reviewed and increased to £35,000</p>			
<p>For your most recent financial year, what % f of your income was from statutory sources? 51-60%</p>			

Organisational changes

Describe any significant organisational changes to your structure, financial position or core activities since the date of your most recent accounts.

Our chair resigned at our AGM in December 2017. He had been chair and trustee for a number of years and we have been unable to replace him. An experienced trustee has agreed to take on the tasks of the chair. We have a new and experienced trustee who is a person with a learning disability

Grant Request

Which of the Trust's programmes and priority areas will your application deliver?

Positive Transitions

Which of the programme outcome(s) does your application aim to achieve?

Positive Transitions/Vulnerable and disadvantaged Londoners are more resilient and empowered to make positive choices

Positive Transitions/Londoners experiencing inequality or disadvantage are supported to become more independent

Please describe the purpose of your funding request in one sentence.

Supporting Young people to explore a range of options and make positive choices as they move into adulthood.

When will the funding be required? **01/01/2019**

Is this request to continue work that is currently funded or has been funded in the last year by:

City Bridge Trust?

Another funder? (if so which)

No

How much funding are you requesting?

Year 1:
£30,988

Year 2:
£28,051

Year 3:
£28,892

Year 4:
£29,759

Year 5:
£30,651

Total Requested: £148,341

What 3 main differences or outcomes do you want to achieve through your funding proposal?

Individuals will develop new skills, become more confident about the future. They will have more positive relationships with their peers and increased self esteem. They will be less fearful of the future and have an increased awareness of their own strengths. They will have good team skills.

Young people will have an opportunity to explore Housing, Employment, Education and Training options. They will know more about how to keep themselves safe and how to have positive friendships and relationships. They will become more confident in group settings and more confident about the future.

The outcomes will be the same as above. Young people will be linked to democratic processes. They will be involved in shaping services locally and regionally.

What are the main activities or outputs you will deliver to achieve these differences?

2 weekly self advocacy groups for young men and women focusing on transition and the challenges that young people with learning disabilities face when leaving school/college and moving into adulthood. Groups will use creative ways of exploring change and developing skills and tools that they can use during the transition process.

Quarterly facilitated workshops focusing on key themes.g Safeguarding, Housing, Employment, Friendships and Relationships, Further education and training. The MP for moving on will be supported to plan for and facilitate the workshops. Using creative ways e.g Film, Drama, of supporting people to be involved and included in the focus groups

Bi- Annual Moving On Forum. A larger group facilitated by the MP for Moving On and other MPs giving people important information that will support them to make choices and to gather their views about services and producing reports which are then shared with decision makers locally and regionally.

You and your grant request

What, specifically, are you applying for (your project)?

Providing weekly self advocacy groups and regular workshops in schools and colleges for young people with learning disabilities in transition from children to adult services. Groups will focus on moving on supporting young people to develop team skills, confidence and to have information about supports and services available so that they are able to make informed choices when they move on. A Self Advocacy worker will be supported by an experienced sessional group worker to facilitate a weekly group with young women and one with young men. Group members will identify a theme linked to moving on and the challenges they face that they can focus on during the year and use the most appropriate method e.g film, music, poetry to support them to move towards adulthood and change. Project staff will support MPs from the People's Parliament to facilitate accessible workshops for larger groups about moving on and safeguarding.

How will the project described achieve your stated outcomes?

Groups members will develop skills and confidence in their own abilities. They will be less fearful and more positive about the future. They will be better equipped to move into adulthood. In self advocacy groups and in larger workshops young people will learn more about the range of services available e.g education, employment, housing and health. as well as raising awareness about the range of options and services the MPs will consult with young people and be supported to represent the views of their peers at decision making meetings locally and regionally.

In groups, forums and accessible safeguarding workshops young people will learn about keeping themselves and others safe when they are in college and out in the community. They will learn about how to have good friendships and relationships. They will know about hate and mate crime and what to do if they are victims of or witness either.

How do you know there's a need for this work?

Young people with learning disabilities are less likely to have a paid job and live independently than their peers. They are more likely to come from disadvantaged families where parents have a low expectation of their future. They are less likely to take risks in their lives and are rarely supported to understand risks and how to keep themselves safe. Many young people leave college and become lost to services reappearing again through the criminal justice system as perpetrators or victims of crime, or as parents in child protection proceedings struggling to get appropriate support to care for their children. They are more likely to be victims of hate crime, and are vulnerable to grooming. Many young people that we work with have complex communication and autism and often find it difficult to develop and maintain relationships and friendships. Information about transition and choices is often aimed at carers.

How will the work be delivered - specifically, what will you do?

The Self Advocacy worker and sessional group worker will facilitate 2 1.5 hour weekly groups in a local sixth form college with young people with learning disabilities. A young men's group and a young women's group. The young people will identify a key theme related to transition to focus on and then identify an activity that will support them to explore the identified theme e.g making a film, writing a song, making posters. Young people will be supported to develop key roles within the groups and activities. AIG staff will support young people to develop new skills, to take on different roles moving at a pace that young people feel comfortable with.

We will facilitate accessible workshops supporting young people to meet together in larger groups, sharing ideas and experiences and learning as well as finding out about the range of services and supports available and about keeping safe.

Why are you the right organisation to do this work?

We have a track record of providing accessible groups, workshops and forums. We have worked with adults and young people with learning disabilities in creative ways designing and using a range of resources to support people to understand information and to make choices.

We have worked in schools and colleges providing self advocacy groups over a number of years. We have positive relationships with teaching staff within these establishments. We have positive feedback from young people who have been group members as well as staff in the schools and colleges who have seen the young people become more confident within their school and college and develop new skills.

We have a track record of facilitating accessible focus groups and larger consultations, supporting people with learning disabilities to engage and involve their peers in developing services.

We are well networked and always ensure that our project work is shared with networks.

How does your work complement and not duplicate other services within your area?

There is no other organisation in the area working in this way with young people in transition.

Statutory Health and Social Care Providers should be involving and including young people with learning disabilities in their own transition plans and in developing plans for young people borough wide but often it is the carer who is vocal and consulted.

There is no other organisation that is supporting young people with learning disabilities in transition to have a voice and to represent themselves and their peers at a service development level.

How will you ensure that your project will hear and represent the views and needs of disadvantaged people and/or diverse communities?

We will be working with staff in schools and colleges to identify the most marginalised and disadvantaged young people.

We will use creative ways of involving young people who struggle to express their views and wishes in ways that other people can understand.

The weekly small groups will give people who may struggle in larger groups a safe space to explore their hopes and fears about transition and to find the most appropriate way of sharing this with their peers and decision makers.

The larger workshops and Forums will give young people the opportunity to meet with their peers and learn from each other. We will support the MPs from the People's Parliament who facilitate the workshops and Forums to find accessible ways of including and involving people with complex communication. The MPs will prepare accessible reports, including films and share at decision making meetings in the borough.

How does your project engage and empower individuals and/or communities to come together on this issue? Will you be working with people who are particularly excluded?

All of our work focuses on engaging and empowering people we work with. People with learning disabilities have paid roles within the organisation where they represent their peers, and work to improve services and supports.

Each of the groups will be supporting people to come together focusing on positive transitions.

We facilitate the election of representatives and elected members of the People's Parliament. Young People have the opportunity to elect their peers and to ensure that the MPs are representing their views and experiences. We use a range of tools to ensure that we include people with complex needs and communication. People have the opportunity to join groups of various sizes with a range of structures e.g self advocacy group, workshops and Forum. The self advocacy groups will be tailored to the needs of each of its members and ultimately will be led by its members.

Is the focus of your project meeting an already identifiable need (acute or otherwise) or are there elements which are preventative and/or incorporate early action?

The project aims to support young people to have a better chance of reaching their full potential by working to remove the barriers that this particular group of young people face when moving from children to adult services.

In small groups young people will talk about their fears for the future and the barriers that they face finding creative ways of working together to plan and work towards the future.

All small group members will have the opportunity to develop a tool that they can use to tell others about their ideas and plans for the future e.g film, poster, poem etc.

The workshops and Moving On Forum will give larger numbers of young people the opportunity to find out what is available to support them in transition and through the People's Parliament to influence the development of accessible and appropriate services in the borough.

Who might you need to work closely with in delivering this project - whether before, during or afterwards?

We will work closely with young people themselves in the small groups to develop the ideas for the themes of the groups. We will work with the MPs from the People's Parliament, particularly the MP for Transition to plan and deliver the workshops and forums and to bring the views of the young people to decision making meetings. We will work with the staff in the local sixth form college and school for young people with learning disabilities. Staff will know the communication and support needs of the young people.

We will also work with the Transitions team in the borough to raise awareness of the needs of young people with learning disabilities in Transition.

We will work with local voluntary agencies who currently provide support and services to people with learning disabilities e.g. employment support.

Our aim as a funder is to help people move positively between any of the four stages of Surviving, Coping, Adapting and Thriving. For your project at which of these stages will most people begin their journey?

The majority of the young people we will be working with in the small self advocacy groups will be at the Surviving or Coping stage. Staff will support us to identify young people who are the most marginalised and isolated within the college and school and are struggling because of lack of confidence and low self esteem. Our experience has shown us that as young people develop skills and confidence in small groups they become more confident in other settings within the school or college.

In larger groups we would expect young people to range from Surviving to Adapting and we would be working towards supporting young people to be thriving. They will become more confident about the future and be helping to shape services. We anticipate that there will be some young people who may want to take on paid roles within the organisation as trainers, employment Ambassadors, MPs.

Will there be any elements of this project that will help you or your beneficiaries to reduce your environmental footprint?

We are moving to a smaller office where we will use less heating and lighting.

We recycle as much as we can.

Our new offices will be closer to one venue and equidistant from another so staff will be travelling less.

Our new offices will be closer to many voluntary and statutory sector organisations so all staff will be travelling less between meetings and will be able to walk to meetings.

We will be collocating offices and will be working to share resources like photocopiers etc.

We are aiming to ensure that we access and store more information on the cloud to reduce the amount of paper that we use and store.

Funding required for the project

What is the total cost of the proposed activity/project?

Expenditure heading	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total
Staff Salaries	19,703	20,294	20,902	21,529	22,175	104,603
Consultant Costs	1,415	1,457	1,501	1,546	1,592	7,511
Office Costs	700	721	742	764	787	3,714
Rent/ Room Hire	3,000	3,090	3,183	3,278	3,376	15,927
IT	900	80	83	86	89	1,238
Telephone	500	515	530	546	562	2,653
Insurance and Audit	520	536	552	569	586	2,763
Staff Travel and Training	1,250	1,288	1,327	1,367	1,408	6,640
Staff Recruitment	3,000	70	72	74	76	3,292
TOTAL:	30,988	28,051	28,892	29,759	30,651	148,341

What income has already been raised?

Source	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total
TOTAL:	0	0	0	0	0	0

What other funders are currently considering the proposal?

Source	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total
TOTAL:	0	0	0	0	0	0

How much is requested from the Trust?

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Who will benefit?

How many people will directly benefit from the grant per year?

90

In which Greater London borough(s) or areas of London will your beneficiaries live?

Greenwich

Does this project specifically target any groups or communities?

Yes - please enter details below

This project will specifically work with the following age groups:

16-24

This project will specifically work with the following gender groups:

This project will specifically work with the following ethnic groups:

If Other ethnic group, please give details:

This project will specifically work with Deaf and disabled people:

Yes

This project will specifically work with LGBTQI groups:

No

This project will specifically work with other groups or communities:
People with learning Disabilities

How will you target the groups/communities you have identified? What is your expertise in providing services for these groups?

We are well networked in Greenwich and have been working with young people with learning disabilities in schools and colleges since 2000

Are there any groups or communities you think your organisation will find hard to include through this project?

No

If yes, please specify which groups or communities? Where possible using the categories listed above.

If yes, what steps will you take to make your services accessible to and meet the needs of the groups/communities you have identified?

Declaration

I confirm that, to the best of my knowledge, all the information I have provided in this application form is correct. I fully understand that City Bridge Trust has zero tolerance towards fraud and will seek to prosecute and recover funds in every instance.

Please confirm: Yes Full Name: **Anita Rickard**

Role within **Director**
Organisation: