

The City Bridge Trust

Investing In Londoners: Application for a grant



About your organisation

Name of your organisation: Vision Care for Homeless People	
If your organisation is part of a larger organisation, what is its name?	
In which London Borough is your organisation based? Tower Hamlets	
Contact person: Mr David Brown	Position: General Manager
Website: http://vchp.org.uk/	
Legal status of organisation: Registered Charity	Charity, Charitable Incorporated Company or company number: 1118076
When was your organisation established? 26/09/2006	

Grant Request

Under which of City Bridge Trust's programmes are you applying? Reducing Poverty
Which of the programme outcome(s) does your application aim to achieve? More Londoners with improved economic circumstances
Please describe the purpose of your funding request in one sentence. To pay for a part-time volunteer manager who will develop volunteer teams to reach more impoverished homeless people in London with eye care services.
When will the funding be required? 01/03/2017
How much funding are you requesting? Year 1: £16,523 Year 2: £17,018 Year 3: £17,529 Total: £51,070

Aims of your organisation:

Our aim is to ensure people who are homeless receive the eye care they need. We provide opticians services to homeless and other vulnerable people in accessible and friendly environments in which they feel safe, welcome and comfortable. We ensure homeless people receive eye sight tests and glasses at no cost. Homeless people need glasses in order to find accommodation, obtain or retain employment, to help them stay safe and to enjoy everyday activities. Being able to see properly is often important to them picking themselves up again when they are or have been homeless. Homeless people are particularly disadvantaged when it comes to obtaining sight tests, glasses and eye care. They suffer a higher level of eye problems than the general population, yet some 35% have never had an eye test. Because of the way the NHS contracts with opticians, currently 65% of homeless people are ineligible to have glasses paid for by the NHS.

Main activities of your organisation:

Operating from homeless persons' day centres, we run six clinics on a weekly or twice weekly basis. We have three clinics in London: Spitalfields, Marylebone and Shepherd's Bush. We provide glasses free of charge to 1,800 homeless people each year. Each clinic provides a comprehensive opticians service including a full optometric eye examination, free glasses and referrals for further medical care when needed. Each clinic is run by a team largely comprised of volunteers including an optometrist, dispensing optician and clinic assistants.

We also organize the Opticians Service at Crisis at Christmas. During the week, volunteers form mobile teams who travel across London to conduct eye tests and provide glasses. Last year, in the course of a week, they saw a record 353 patients.

We lobby the NHS and government for better access to eye care for homeless people. We are currently starting a new mobile service in Tower Hamlets and new static clinics in Exeter and Leeds.

Number of staff

Full-time:	Part-time:	Management committee members:	Active volunteers:
0	3	7	131

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	Rooms gratis. HQ virtual

Total 651,678

Summary of grant request

We plan to employ a part-time volunteer manager to support our growth strategy.

That growth strategy draws on our research which shows:

Homeless people suffer a much higher level of eye pathology than the general population.

Homeless people face significant barriers to accessing eye care, including more than half being ineligible for free eye tests and glasses from the NHS.

With the exception of the charitable service we provide, dedicated accessible opticians services for homeless are virtually non-existent.

To provide equality of access around 9,000 homeless people need an eye test each year across England. Currently we have clinics in 6 out of the 15 largest conurbations across England (counting London as 3). Where we have a clinic, we reach 40% of homeless people in the area.

There is considerable unmet need, so our strategy is:

To develop strong functional volunteer teams at our existing clinics. Each clinic to be led by a local branch leadership team. Functional teams to cover, clinic operations, outreach, funding, partnerships, training and recruitment.

To develop our central volunteer teams to support our growth and development. Our volunteer ambassadors reach out to their local communities, others look for local funding. A volunteer team helps develop new clinics and another organises research and evaluation.

To open new city centre clinics each led by a team of local volunteers. We are opening a new clinic in Exeter in January and another in Leeds later in 2017.

In those areas where we have a clinic, to reach further homeless people using a new mobile service model. We are developing one of these in Tower Hamlets to be led by a team of volunteers. The service will visit hostels and day centres to do eye tests and dispense spectacles.

To maintain our advocacy on behalf of homeless people to improve their access to eye care. We have had considerable success using our research to make the case for changing NHS contracting with Opticians and are working with NHS England to make improvements.

As a small organisation with little central resource, volunteer development underpins our growth plans. We have had some notable successes, such as building a strong lead team for our Exeter start up, and developing a highly functional branch team in Brighton. However, translating that success to London has been more challenging.

Our volunteer development strategy is based on three mutually reinforcing strands: recruitment, resourcing and recognition.

We have always recruited and supported professional volunteers - optometrists, dispensing opticians, assistants and students from the optical industry - and will typically have 48 helping at any one time, plus another 83 during Crisis at Christmas. However we have started recruiting lay volunteers, increasing the need for support, resourcing and recognition of volunteers.

It takes considerable resources to recruit and place a volunteer, so it's important we retain volunteers and fully utilise their potential. We want our volunteers to feel they are part of a particular local or national team, are making a difference to homeless people and really matter to the charity.

We want to recruit a volunteer manager to work 2 days per week over a three year period. Their work will include:

Recruitment, development and management of key volunteers to develop branch lead teams in London.

What main differences or outcomes do you hope the activities you have described above will achieve? Please include no more than 5. By differences or outcomes we mean the changes, benefits, learning or other effects that result from the work your project would deliver. These might be for individuals, families, communities or the environment.

Strong, effective and sustainable lead and operational teams developed for outreach, London static clinics and East London mobile. We measure the strength of our teams using a maturity profile assessment system.

London outreach activities result in an additional 300 impoverished homeless people receiving eye tests and glasses per year. We record statistics on numbers of homeless people we see and their status on NHS eligibility.

Tower Hamlets mobile service reaches 200 impoverished homeless people each year.

Do you plan to continue the activity beyond the period for which you are requesting funding? If so, how do you intend to sustain it? If not, what is your exit strategy?

We will offer the post as a three year contract. However, we plan to expand our reach over the next three years, such that the additional NHS income we obtain will cover the cost of making the post permanent.

Who will benefit?

About your beneficiaries

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

500

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

Tower Hamlets (40%)

London-wide (60%)

What age group(s) will benefit?

16-24

25-44

45-64

65-74

75 and over

What gender will beneficiaries be?

All

What will the ethnic grouping(s) of the beneficiaries be?

A range of ethnic groups

If Other ethnic group, please give details:

What proportion of the beneficiaries will be disabled people?

11-20%

Funding required for the project

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

Expenditure heading	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
Salary (2 day/week @ FTE of £36k)	14,400	14,832	15,277	44,509
National Insurance	971	1,000	1,030	3,000
Workplace Pension	432	445	458	1,335
On cost (ICT, travel)	720	742	764	2,225
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0

TOTAL:	16,523	17,018	17,529	51,070
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What income has already been raised?

Source	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
No income raised so far	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0

TOTAL:	0	0	0	0
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What other funders are currently considering the proposal?

Source	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
Eranda Foundation (applied 4/7/16)	14,072	14,072	14,072	42,216
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0

TOTAL:	0	0	0	0
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How much is requested from the Trust?

Expenditure heading	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
Full cost above	16,253	17,018	17,529	51,070
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0

TOTAL:	16,253	17,018	17,529	51,070
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Finance details

Please complete using your most recent audited or independently examined accounts.

Financial year ended:	Month: March	Year: 2016
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Income received from:	£
Voluntary Income	9,314
Activities for generating funds	0
Investment income	70
Income from charitable activities	96,871
Other sources	1,887
Total Income:	108,142

Expenditure:	£
Charitable activities	74,831
Governance costs	0
Cost of generating funds	1,526
Other	0
Total Expenditure:	76,357
Net (deficit)/surplus:	31,785
Other Recognised Gains/(Losses):	0
Net Movement in Funds:	31,785

Asset position at year end	£
Fixed assets	5,933
Investments	0
Net current assets	81,287
Long-term liabilities	0
*Total Assets (A):	87,220

Reserves at year end	£
Restricted funds	43,614
Endowment Funds	0
Unrestricted funds	43,606
*Total Reserves (B):	87,220

*** Please note that total Assets (A) and Total Reserves (B) should be the same.**

Statutory funding

For your most recent financial year, what % of your income was from statutory sources?
31-40%

Organisational changes

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

None

Previous funding received

Please list the funding received by your organisation from the following statutory sources during the last THREE years.

	2012 £	2013 £	2014 £
City of London (except City Bridge Trust)	0	0	0
London Local Authorities	0	0	0
London Councils	0	0	0
Health Authorities	29,217	44,359	36,390
Central Government departments	0	0	0
Other statutory bodies	0	0	0

Previous grants received

Please list the grants received by your organisation from charitable trusts and foundations (other than City Bridge Trust) during the last THREE years. List source, years and annual amounts. Please include the 5 largest only.

Name of Funder	2012 £	2013 £	2014 £
Smiths Charitable Trust	0	0	26,000
Optometry Giving Sight	6,816	19,931	2,303
Knowle and Dorridge Lions	0	11,793	0
Foyle Foundation	0	0	10,000
Steele Charitable Trust	0	0	10,000

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: **David Brown**

Role within
Organisation: **General Manager**