

The City Bridge Trust

Investing In Londoners: Application for a grant



About your organisation

Name of your organisation: Help Somalia Foundation	
If your organisation is part of a larger organisation, what is its name? HSF is an independent charity	
In which London Borough is your organisation based? Brent	
Contact person: Mr Harbi Farah	Position: Director
Website: http://www.helpsomaliafoundation.org	
Legal status of organisation: Registered Charity	Charity, Charitable Incorporated Company or company number: 1059876
When was your organisation established? 19/12/1996	

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 More people accessing debt and legal services		
Please describe the purpose of your funding request in one sentence. Advice and 1-1 support to resolve people's debts, enable increased income for life essentials [shelter, food and clothing] and support for proactive financial management.		
When will the funding be required? 08/01/2018		
How much funding are you requesting?		
Year 1: £23,352	Year 2: £23,914	Year 3: £24,491
Total: £71,758		

Aims of your organisation:

Mission : HSF has a mission to empower Somali individuals and the community as a whole to reach their full potential, integrate into and contribute towards the wider UK society while maintaining their unique Somali traditions and culture.

Main Aims : we have 5 outcomes to fulfill our mission :-

- (1) Somalis will compete for jobs and participate in the employment market by gaining skills and experience
- (2) Somali families, children and young people will improve their educational achievement as a foundation for positive futures
- (3) The Somali community will have increased access to information, advice and guidance in order that they can gain the essentials to live
- (4) Young Somalis will divert from anti-social behaviour, improve their confidence and abilities to achieve their potential.

Main activities of your organisation:

Help Somalia Foundation (HSF) delivers the following activities :-

- (1) Confidential Information, Advice and Guidance Support (IAG) : Including representation, counselling, translation, interpretation and welfare benefits [over 2,000 interventions annually).
- (2) "Strengthening Families, Strengthening Communities" Parent Programme (SFSC) to reach, retain and impact on Black, Asian, Minority Ethnic & Refugee (BAMER) parents and marginalised communities.
- (3) Supplementary Schools : weekly provision of educational support during term time covering the key Stage 1-3 and the core GCSE subjects of English, Mathematics and Science [More than 50 children each week]
- (4) ESOL classes to ensure Somalis can speak English as a foundation for their development [Two days per week for 3 hrs per day]. Over 53 participants enrolled and completed Entry Level 1 & 2 during the academic year.

Number of staff

Full-time:	Part-time:	Management committee members:	Active volunteers:
0	3	7	10

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	Annually renewed

Summary of grant request

"Advice4Life" : Grant Proposal :

The Need :

- (1) In Brent, the BAMER community has increased from 55% [2001] to 64% [2nd highest in England and Wales] with Black / African Increased by 18%
- (2) Brent has the largest population of London residents who were born in "Somalia" [our primary targeted group].
- (3) Desk Research e.g. Census and Community Strategy Reports, show Somali born migrants have the lowest employment rate of all migrants in the UK
- (4) This is mainly due to low education levels [50% have no qualifications], low skills levels and lack of English language all contributing to chronic worklessness, severe poverty and growing debt.

How We Know :

Research and consultation is complemented by our track record i.e. HSF has supported BAMER and Somali communities for 21 years communicating with them on a 1-1 basis daily to find out their needs directly ; generic and specialist advice is the community's main need to address poverty and increasing indices of debt.

Aligning with Community Strategies :

"Advice4Life" aligns with Brent's local strategy ["Brent -- Our Future 2010 -- 2016"] specifically the 'Reducing worklessness and low incomes' priority as advice will assist people on low incomes who are increasingly accruing debt.

Project Overview :

"Advice4Life" will provide 1 -1 advice and support to resolve people's financial debts [In-house and telephone advice] and enable Increased Income to pay for essentials [shelter, food and clothing]

Furthermore, a crucial part of the programme will be to provide proactive support enabling beneficiaries to better manage their finances and households to avoid future financial issues.

"Advice4Life" will provide advice and casework across all areas of social welfare law, both responsive to their current [debt] situations and proactive e.g. preventing problems becoming more serious, complex and costly; to support and empower clients to resolve problems and take more control over their lives.

Further added value will be achieved via :-

- (1) Volunteer engagement : all our programmes are supported by volunteers, therefore will ensure we have one volunteer supporting each day's session

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(2) Networking and collaborations practice which will conduct cross-referral with agencies such as other 3rd sector / mainstream providers, Job Centre Plus, DWP, Local Council e.g. Housing Department and others to ensure we have access to specialist expertise e.g. job search with JCP.

Outcomes: people from BAMER communities will manage their debts and learn new financial skills leading to improved economic circumstances, avoidance of future debt and better health.

Furthermore, people will have access to volunteer opportunities to build confidence, skills and become more employable

Output [Target]: 100 disadvantaged people from BAMER communities will benefit each year = 300 over the 3 year term.

Help Somalia Foundation [HSF] : HSF has delivered generic information, advice and guidance since its inception back in 1996, we have relevant accreditations e.g. Advice Quality Standard [AQS] Quality Mark and qualified staff support by trained volunteers.

We provide approximately 55 interventions per week which accounts for over 2,000 interventions annually and translates as more than 500 individuals each year benefiting ; "Advice4Life" will add a specialist financial advice programme in response to needs identified.

CBT Priority: "Reducing Poverty" : the project will add specialist advice to our generic activities i.e. the provision of money, debt and housing advice will complement our programme adding to the [successful] generic welfare benefits advice already provided.

Principles of Good Practice : HSF targets people from BAMER communities, our board and personnel teams are peers as a user-led organisation, volunteers are trained and expenses paid and we develop our green policies regularly e.g. trying to run a paper-less office.

If you need any planning or other statutory consents for the project to proceed, what stage have the applications reached?

Do you have a Vulnerable Adults policy? **Yes**

What Quality Marks does your organisation currently hold?

HSF has delivered confidential Information, Advice and Guidance Support (IAG) since its inception back in 1996 i.e. we now have 21 years experience, we have

Outputs and outcomes

What are the main activities or outputs you want to deliver? Please include no more than 5. By activities or outputs we mean the services, products or facilities you plan to deliver. If you plan to deliver work over more than one year you should include activities over the full grant period requested. Try to be specific.

Money & Debt Advice : 1-1 support for clients to negotiate manageable debt repayments, write off debts [wherever possible] plus proactive support enabling beneficiaries to better manage their finances to avoid future financial issues and debt. 10 people will benefit per session = 30 per week [100 per year]

Welfare Benefits Advice : 1-1 support for clients to increase their income including :-

? conducting an 'Income Max' assessment [to assess their finances and benefits entitlements],

? support to claim any benefits to which they are entitled

? and an action plan for developing their financial situations.

Private Renting Advice : 1-1 support focussed towards :-

? assessing clients' accommodation / housing needs, current situations

? provision of a customised action plan as regards their tenure which may include assistance to negotiate better deals with private landlords and accessing housing benefits to afford their rents.

Volunteer Engagement : all our programmes are supported by volunteers, therefore we will ensure we have one volunteer supporting each day's session [10 volunteers to enable 3 active each week] : furthermore, volunteers will be trained to support clients, gaining new skills which will make them more employable.

Networking and Collaborations : we will conduct cross-referral with agencies such as other 3rd sector / mainstream providers, Job Centre Plus, DWP, Local Council e.g. Housing Department to ensure we have access to other expertise e.g. running in-house specialist workshops with JCP, and to establish / develop cross referral functions.

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.

Through specialist advice, people from BAMER & Somali communities will achieve agreed settlements with creditors and go on to manage their debts leading to improved economic circumstances

Through 1-1 support, people from BAMER & Somali communities will raise their income levels leading to improved abilities to afford the essentials to live [shelter, food and clothing] and financial independence

Through developmental workshops and 1-1 guidance, people from BAMER & Somali communities will learn new skills to proactively manage their finances reducing indices of debt and improving their mental and physical health through stress reduction.

People from BAMER communities will have access to volunteer opportunities enabling them to build confidence, gain new skills and become more employable

N/A

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?

Yes, however we will evaluate the project and review needs to assess the best way to continue and to ensure the programme remains relevant as needs change during the term and in the future. Future activities will be funded through 3rd sector grants and contract opportunities for advice which we research on an ongoing basis.

Who will benefit?

About your beneficiaries

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

100

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

Brent (100%)

What age group(s) will benefit?

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?

1-10%

Funding required for the project

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

Expenditure heading	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
(1) Salary [Advice and Development Officer] plus on costs	14,210	14,669	15,143	44,021
(2) Staff Travel	720	742	764	2,225
(3) Volunteers expenses	1,440	1,440	1,440	4,320
(4) Revenue [Direct]	960	989	1,018	2,967
(5) Advertising & Promotions	500	500	500	1,500
(6) Project Activity Budget	2,400	2,400	2,400	7,200
(7) Evaluation	1,000	1,000	1,000	3,000
(8) [Overheads] Full Cost Recovery)	2,123	2,174	2,226	6,523
	0	0	0	0

TOTAL:	23,352	23,914	24,491	71,758
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What income has already been raised?

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

What other funders are currently considering the proposal?

Source	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
N/A	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
TOTAL:	0	0	0	0

How much is requested from the Trust?

Expenditure heading	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
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(8) [Overheads] Full Cost Recovery	2,123	2,174	2,226	6,523
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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	0
Activities for generating funds	0
Investment income	0
Income from charitable activities	56,521
Other sources	1,143
Total Income:	57,664

Expenditure:	£
Charitable activities	63,565
Governance costs	0
Cost of generating funds	0
Other	0
Total Expenditure:	63,565
Net (deficit)/surplus:	-5,901
Other Recognised Gains/(Losses):	0
Net Movement in Funds:	3,853

Asset position at year end	£
Fixed assets	0
Investments	0
Net current assets	3,853
Long-term liabilities	0
*Total Assets (A):	3,853

Reserves at year end	£
Restricted funds	0
Endowment Funds	0
Unrestricted funds	3,853
*Total Reserves (B):	3,853

*** 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?
21-30%

Organisational changes

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

There have been no significant changes as HSF currently delivers a regular programme that has secure funding but we have not managed growth in recent years.

Previous funding received

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

	Year 3 £	Year 2 £	Most recent £
City of London (except City Bridge Trust)	0	0	0
London Local Authorities	15,710	18,846	14,730
London Councils	0	0	0
Health Authorities	0	0	0
Central Government departments	0	2,601	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	Year 3 £	Year 2 £	Most recent £
(1) BBC Children In Need	18,954	11,035	0
(2) Trust for London	3,125	5,824	9,800
(3) Awards for All	0	9,792	0
(4) Lloyds Bank Foundation	13,900	13,000	0
(5) John Loyns Charity	0	0	30,000

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: **Harbi Farah**

Role within **Director**
Organisation: