

The City Bridge Trust

Investing In Londoners: Application for a grant



About your organisation

Name of your organisation: Indoamerican Refugee and Migrant Organisation (IRMO)	
If your organisation is part of a larger organisation, what is its name? N/a	
In which London Borough is your organisation based? Lambeth	
Contact person: Ms Lucia Vinzon	Position: Joint-Director
Website: http://www.irmo.org.uk	
Legal status of organisation: Registered Charity	Charity, Charitable Incorporated Company or company number: 1080813
When was your organisation established? 08/01/1982	

Grant Request

Under which of City Bridge Trust's programmes are you applying? English for Speakers of Other Languages
Which of the programme outcome(s) does your application aim to achieve? More people with improved English language skills More people accessing mainstream services
Please describe the purpose of your funding request in one sentence. Facilitating access to services and community participation for the migrant community in South London through ESOL classes, conversation club, workshops on services and community activities.
When will the funding be required? 01/05/2018
How much funding are you requesting? Year 1: £29,244 Year 2: £30,439 Year 3: £30,928 Total: £90,611

Aims of your organisation:

IRMO is a community-led organisation that provides Latin Americans with tools and information in an empowering process to build secure, independent, and integrated lives in the UK. Our vision is that individuals and families, primarily of Indo/Latin American origin, are empowered to fulfil their potential and are able to fully and equally access services and opportunities.

IRMO has been working with the Latin American community and Spanish and Portuguese speakers more widely for over three decades. Initially founded by Chilean political refugees, the organisation has adapted to meet the changing needs of the Latin American community; ensuring that we continue to provide relevant and effective support.

In 2016/17, we supported over 4,300 people through our services and activities. This figure includes 452 individuals who enrolled on our structured ESOL courses, 160 children supported with school admissions, 315 families that received advice relating to welfare, housing and tax, and close to 700 that received immigration support and casework.

Main activities of your organisation:

IRMO currently runs the following projects:

Advice: Frontline advice and casework on many areas of immigration; money management; housing; tax and accessing welfare entitlements.

English for Work: Seeks to improve employment prospects through English courses, IT classes, workshops and targeted employment advice and support.

Step Up: Provides tailored employment advice, support and training sessions to help low-paid migrants access work that pays London Living Wage or above.

Family Project: Provides ESOL and fun activities for recently arrived kids; supports parents with the in-year school admissions process.

Youth Forum: Youth-led initiative aiming to encourage young people to become more actively involved in their community and supporting them to access opportunities.

Number of staff

Full-time:	Part-time:	Management committee members:	Active volunteers:
2	8	6	95

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	2 years

Summary of grant request

The Latin American community is one of the fastest growing migrant communities in London. In spite of the community's high rates of employment (85%), many experience exclusion, poverty and disadvantage. As people work multiple jobs, complications can arise with tax, and many people build up debt. In addition, a large number do not claim the social security they are entitled to, often resulting in poor and overcrowded living conditions. English is a key stumbling block; preventing integration into British society and access to vital services.

English for All seeks to overcome this challenge. Through the provision of structured ESOL classes, drop-in conversation classes, workshops on access to local and public services, and community coffee mornings, IRMO plans to support 540 individuals to improve their English, access services, and get involved in their local communities; the core priorities of the City Bridge Trust ESOL programme. While IRMO's main user group are Latin Americans, our services and activities are available to people of all backgrounds and ethnicities.

English for All has been developed with the needs of the community at centre stage; a survey we carried out last year revealed that 89% of respondents had relied on someone else to speak English for them, and 97% wanted to improve their English. A previous survey revealed that 58% of Latin Americans identified lack of language skills as the main barrier to further integration (McIlwaine et al 2011). In addition, we know that reduced local authority interpretation and information services for new arrivals often results in the exclusion of migrants from public services, with few claiming the social security they are entitled to. We see this in practice at our weekly welfare advice service. 16% of our beneficiaries are homeless or insecurely housed and 20% are not registered with a GP.

IRMO has a proven track record of delivering ESOL classes. Since 2010, we have worked with over 3,000 students, and demand for our ESOL classes continues to rise. Over this time, we have worked hard to adapt and improve our projects and services in response to the feedback we receive from our service users and volunteers. We have introduced a flexible conversational class for those unable to commit to regular attendance, as well as a specific English class for those with low literacy who struggle to keep pace in the other courses. As the current funding for our ESOL classes comes to an end, we are applying to the City Bridge Trust to enable us to continue this vital service for migrant communities.

IRMO's approach to service delivery complements the Trust's principles of good practice. Service-user involvement is at the heart of everything we do. As a small organisation, we have an informal and close relationship with our users, which enables us to respond flexibly to their changing needs. While we work for the benefit of the Latin American migrant community - and Spanish and Portuguese speakers more widely - we are an open doors organisation and welcome people of all backgrounds. Our service users and volunteers come from all over the world; a recent survey revealed that our volunteers come from 34 different countries across every continent. Volunteers support us across every aspect of our organisation. We highly value their contribution, and seek to provide comprehensive support (through the provision of a volunteer handbook, induction process and one to one support) throughout their time at IRMO. Lastly, IRMO seeks wherever possible to reduce its impact on the environment, both through encouraging recycling at our centre, as well as through running awareness raising activities with our children, young people and adults.

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?

IRMO is registered at Level 1 with the Office of the Immigration Service Commissioner (OISC) and holds the Advice Quality Standard (AQS). We are also an accredited Living Wage Employer.

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.

Structured English courses: 576 hours per year of English classes provided at four levels (pre-entry, beginner, elementary and pre-Intermediate). Teachers will follow a structured curriculum, which focuses on building practical, relevant vocabulary and confidence negotiating real-life, everyday situations.

Drop-In English conversation classes: 216 hours per year of English conversation classes. These provide a flexible alternative to the structured classes, as changing work patterns can make it difficult for many of our service users to commit to fixed times. These classes focus on building students' confidence when speaking English.

Workshops on accessing services: 8 workshops per year on topics such as money management; the UK education system (and in-year admissions); the NHS and signing up to the GP; the welfare system; and employment rights. These workshops will facilitate access to information, services and resources and will encourage independence.

Community coffee morning: Monthly coffee mornings (12 per year) will take place at a local community café or partner organisation. These will be targeted at the wider community. Local guests (community entrepreneurs, local projects) will be invited to talk about what's going on and ways to get involved.

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.

More people with improved English language skills: 210 people per year will have improved English skills and feel greater confidence when speaking English.

More people accessing services: 120 people per year will have improved knowledge of where and how to access basic services.

More people participating in the wider community: 100 people per year will get involved in their wider community through participation in our coffee morning sessions, which will facilitate connections across the local community and encourage greater community involvement and integration.

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?

IRMO has built resource into the budget in years two and three to plan and prepare for becoming an accredited ESOL centre. This would enable us to deliver accredited courses at intermediate level and above (for an accessible and competitive fee), which would contribute towards the cost of delivering free beginner and elementary ESOL, increasing the sustainability of this service.

Who will benefit?

About your beneficiaries

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

540

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

Lambeth (40%)

Southwark (35%)

London-wide (25%)

What age group(s) will benefit?

16-24

25-44

45-64

What gender will beneficiaries be?

All

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

A range of ethnic groups

Mixed / Multiple ethnic groups

Other ethnic group

If Other ethnic group, please give details: **Latin American**

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
Staff	45,468	46,357	46,836	138,661
Volunteers	1,750	1,750	1,750	5,250
Project Costs	9,230	10,730	11,230	31,190
Indirect Costs	2,040	2,040	2,040	6,120
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
TOTAL:	58,488	60,877	61,856	181,221

What income has already been raised?

Source	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	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
Henry Smith Charity	29,244	30,439	30,928	90,611
	0	0	0	0
	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
Staff	22,734	23,179	23,418	69,331
Volunteers	875	875	875	2,625
Project Costs	4,615	5,365	5,615	15,595
Indirect Costs	1,020	1,020	1,020	3,060
TOTAL:	29,244	30,439	30,928	90,611

Finance details

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

Financial year ended:	Month: March	Year: 2017
-----------------------	------------------------	----------------------

Income received from:	£
Voluntary income	174,584
Activities for generating funds	0
Investment income	13
Income from charitable activities	18,474
Other sources	0
Total Income:	193,071

Expenditure:	£
Charitable activities	195,799
Governance costs	0
Cost of generating funds	0
Other	0
Total Expenditure:	195,799
Net (deficit)/surplus:	-2,728
Other Recognised Gains/(Losses):	0
Net Movement In Funds:	-2,728

Asset position at year end	£
Fixed assets	0
Investments	0
Net current assets	36,111
Long-term liabilities	0
*Total Assets (A):	36,111

Reserves at year end	£
Restricted funds	9,421
Endowment Funds	0
Unrestricted funds	26,690
*Total Reserves (B):	36,111

*** 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?
0%

Organisational changes

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

In September 2017, IRMO's board approved a new leadership model, with two individuals sharing the role of Joint-Director. This decision was made following the return of IRMO's Director from a year's maternity leave. The joint-directors work three days each per week and oversee different areas of the organisation.

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	0	0	0
London Councils	0	0	0
Health Authorities	0	0	0
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	Year 3 £	Year 2 £	Most recent £
Walcot Foundation/Trust for London	39,886	39,886	38,681
BBC Children in Need	37,460	41,156	41,742
Walcot Foundation	20,292	20,292	20,292
Henry Smith Charly	0	20,000	20,000
The Oak Foundation	33,240	0	0

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: **Lucia Vinzon**

Role within **Joint-Director**
Organisation: