

The City Bridge Trust

Bridging Divides: Application for a grant



About your organisation

Organisation Details

Name of your organisation: Growbaby	
If your organisation is part of a larger organisation, what is its name?	
In which London Borough is your organisation based? Kingston	
Contact person: Mrs Fiona Farrelly	Position: Founder of Growbaby and co-senior pastor
Website: http://www.growbaby.co.uk and www.kingstonvineyard.co.uk	Social Media Accounts: @Growbabykv and @KingstonVnyrd
What Quality Marks does your organisation currently hold?	

Legal Status

Legal status of organisation: Registered Charity			
Charity Number: 1107408	Company Number:	CIC Number:	Bencom Number:
When was your organisation established? 01/09/2003			
Aims of your organisation: Growbaby is a community project of Kingston Vineyard, a Christian church that is located in Kingston. We believe that serving and loving our local community in any practical way that we can, is an integral part of the church's remit. Growbaby provides good quality, new and second-hand, baby clothes and equipment completely free of charge, to anyone who needs it, regardless of their income, faith or background from The Hub, its centre on Surbiton Road. Growbaby serves the community in many different ways with a programme of weekly groups including ante-natal, breast-feeding, parenting and language skills. Our objective is to provide a safe, non-judgmental place, at the Hub, for young parents and families as well as all those who access our various groups to build connections and friendships. We aim to be reactive to need rather than putting on events and groups based on our perception of requirement.			

Main activities of your organisation:

In addition to providing free baby clothing and equipment for 0-5 year olds, the Kingston Hospital ?Bridge? team currently runs its ante-natal classes for under 24s at the Hub, a group known as Babettes. There is also a weekly breast-feeding support drop in, which all parents of any age may access.

Babes is a ?skills for life? group for young parents (under 24) run in conjunction with the Young Parents housing floating support team. A large number of young parents who attend this group each week have also attended the Babettes group.

During the Christmas period Growbaby works with partners including the Met Police and Nationwide to provide Christmas presents for disadvantaged children in the community, nominated by social services. In 2017 we provided over 1,500 Christmas gifts, many donated by Epsom College.

Also weekly during term time we offer an ESOL beginners language class - open to all within the Borough.

Your Staff & Volunteers

Full-time:	Part-time:	Trustee/Board members:	Active volunteers:
0	2	6	20
Do you have a Safeguarding policy? Yes			
Are the following people in your organisation subject to DBS checks?			
Paid Staff Yes	Volunteers Yes	Trustees / Management Committee Members Yes	

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?
Leased	

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

By its very nature, Growbaby effectively recycles good quality, second-hand, baby clothes and equipment provided by the local community back into the local community. Broken equipment donated to Growbaby is always mended and cleaned before it is re-cycled back into the community.

We work hard to reduce our energy use in The Hub by monitoring utility bills and by advising volunteers and users of The Hub accordingly. We also are careful to recycle rubbish as appropriate.

Finance Details

Organisation Finances

	Year of most recent audited / examined accounts	Current financial year forecast	Next financial year budget
End of financial year date	31/12/2016	31/12/2018	
Grants & donations:	£42,407	£47,947	£0
Earned income:	£0	£0	£0
Other income:	£5,379	£7,295	£0
Total income:	£47,786	£55,242	£0
Charitable activity costs:	£36,531	£32,038	£0
Cost of raising funds:	£0	£0	£0
Other costs:	£24,489	£0	£0
Total expenditure:	£57,985	£53,397	£0
Free unrestricted reserves held at year end:	£37,531	£42,488	£0

What is your organisation's reserves policy?

Fixed reserves of between 6-12 months of the resources expended plus rationalisation costs, which equates to £10,000-£20,000 in general funds to provide: funds to restructure the charity in event of the income dropping sharply; 6-12 months foundation for security of ministry and to meet contractual need obligations.

The charity is almost entirely dependent for income upon generous donations from the people who are part of the Kingston Vineyard church family, supplemented by one-off gifts from individual / organisations, so our income is inevitably subject to fluctuation and it requires protection against and the ability to continue operating if income reduces.

For your most recent financial year, what % of your income was from statutory sources?
0%

Organisational changes

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

We are transitioning from a charitable trust to a charitable incorporated organisation no 1176660. The CIO has been opened and the transfer of assets and liabilities will take place on the 1st July 2018. Our income for year ended 31 Dec 2017 was £78,725 so we are basing this submission on this basis.

Grant Request

Under which of City Bridge Trust's programmes are you applying?
Positive Transitions

Which of the programme outcome(s) does your application aim to achieve?
Positive Transitions\Londoners experiencing inequality or disadvantage are supported to become more independent

Please describe the purpose of your funding request in one sentence.
Our immediate aim is to extend the Growbaby premises, the Hub, by knocking through and developing the next door shop, our secondary aim is to cover our rental costs.

When will the funding be required? **01/10/2018**

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

City Bridge Trust?
No

Another funder? (if so which)

How much funding are you requesting?

Year 1:	Year 2:	Year 3:	Year 4:	Year 5:
£16,923	£20,000	£20,000	£20,000	£20,000

Total Requested: £86,113

You and your grant request

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

Our main expenditure is rental of our premises. This project seeks to expand the premises, redeveloping and merging with the neighbouring retail unit. In addition to an increase in overheads for the expanded property, there is the considerable cost of the redevelopment itself. Once the work to merge the two properties is complete the next largest annual outgoing is our rent.

What are the changes you hope to achieve?

By expanding the Hub we will be able to accommodate larger numbers in all of our social and educational activities as well as having significantly greater storage space for the baby clothes and equipment at the heart of the Growbaby project, this will allow us to expand our clothing age range from 0-5 up to 0-10 and hold maternity clothing as well. We will also be able to provide further services related to young parents and those in need. We aim to develop a "one stop shop" with different agencies present in the one space to support young parents. A further aim is to work more closely with Age concern to engage "grandparents" with our young parents, many of whom do not have an older person in their lives. This reduces isolation for both groups. Growbaby serves many diverse people groups, we would like to extend this further.

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

We currently serve about 1,000 families each year through Growbaby directly. The various other groups are probably reaching over 500 different families. Since we started in 2003 we estimate that over 25,000 individuals have been supported in one way or another. Most are referred through social services, health visitors and midwives in the Boroughs of Kingston and Richmond. Some families also self-refer. Growbaby has developed strong partnerships with these and other agencies and is regularly called upon to support them in their various roles. We are aware from conversations with many different agencies and the families themselves of the isolation felt by young parents and those who are newly arrived in the UK as well as the elderly. Our growing attendance and presence in the Borough is testament to this need.

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

We will continue to offer a programme of services from the Hub; staffed by volunteers offering a variety of skills, including nursing, occupational therapy and teaching. However, Growbaby is much more than a number of different projects or events that can be measured. Certainly we address parenting skills, poverty, antenatal and skills for life support for young parents. We are a community of people providing a safe, non-judgmental place, at the Hub, for young parents and families as well all those who access our various groups to build connections and friendships or just relax with a cup of tea. Once the building work is complete the various agencies involved in the "one stop shop" are ready to engage fully. We will continue to speak with the Bradbury centre about our grandparenting concept.

Why are you the right organisation to do this work?

In 2016 Kingston Vineyard and Growbaby won the Kingston Business award for ?Commitment to the Community? and earlier this year, Growbaby founder Noni Farrelly was honoured with the Kingston Mayor?s Community Award for outstanding service to the Royal Borough. In 2017 we were a recognised project in the 3FF?s awards for faith organisations. We were the first Growbaby to be started but we have now rolled the concept out to 23 other locations in the UK, with one in Germany and one due to start in Zambia. We run a loose connection group, known as Growbaby Connections that allows us to stay in touch, share ideas and good practice. We are trusted locally by professionals and families alike and being a non statutory organisation we are able to engage with many people groups who are wary of agencies.

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

We work very closely with the local Council and agencies in the Borough. Many of our families have a great deal to do with statutory agencies - they are forever filling out forms and explaining why they have need of support or justifying their actions. They often feel judged for their need and marginalised by their circumstances. They are not trusted in many areas and their poor educational or language backgrounds, their health, their demeanour or their age can prohibit them from engaging with employment/other people around them. We encourage people to be more and make more of their situation; we provide the tools for them to develop further in many different areas: parenting and education to name just two. We believe in them and we will do anything that we can to help them make friends, develop skills, progress and change their circumstances if they want to.

How will this proposal meet the Programme Outcome(s) under which you are applying?

Although available to anyone, Growbaby specifically targets disadvantaged parents of 0-5 year olds offering good quality clothing and equipment, completely free of charge. Currently the premises is extremely cramped both in terms of storage and social space. The whole Growbaby programme is designed to offer both support programmes and social engagement which are shown to build confidence and Independence.

We provide a community for people who are marginalised for any number of reasons. They may be teenage parents, immigrants, refugees, victims of domestic violence, parents of children on child protection plans, adopters, non-English speakers, homeless or living at the margins of society. All of these people come together through Growbaby at the Hub, getting support and gaining confidence to improve their situation.

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

Our well-established contacts with the community ensure that we remain 'in-touch' with the views and needs of disadvantaged and vulnerable people. We are in constant dialogue with the various agencies to ensure that we understand and are respectful of the needs of those who come through the door. Many of our volunteers are from the local communities, many of whom are disadvantaged and because we are needs led we are uniquely placed to hear and represent their views. Our excellent relations with the multiple agencies, including the council and our local MP ensure that we are able to represent our families' views extremely clearly.

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?

On one level we are providing free baby clothing and equipment for 0-5 year olds, which assists those in financial need. However, because we are open to all, we are also encouraging those who may be extremely vulnerable, or who are isolated for whatever reason, to engage, make friends and find solutions. Vulnerability can have any number of causes: their young age, their personal history, their health (for example those subject to domestic violence or trafficking, or struggling with mental health issues), or their status in this country (refugees).

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?

Our current space is extremely cramped which can present a significant challenge for both the children and parents, especially those parents who are struggling with anxiety. Our immediate priority is to expand the Hub, for which we need to raise the funds to support the increase in rent, overheads and the redevelopment costs. The development of the Hub and the "one stop shop" will allow us to be proactive in providing support to young parents before significant issues arrive.

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

Landlord, contractors, volunteers, all the various agencies in the Borough, including the local council (and its various departments), children's services, Age Concern, the police, the domestic violence refuges, Kingston Hospital, midwives, health visitors, Refugee Action, young carers, Kingston Voluntary Action and any other agency or organisation in the Borough involved in supporting families in the myriad of ways.

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?

Growbaby offers a journey in itself. People come to the Hub for any of the various services we offer, and grow with us.

The Kingston Hospital 'Bridge' team currently runs its ante-natal classes for under 24s at the Hub, a group known as Babettes. There is also a weekly breast-feeding support drop in, which all parents of any age may access.

Babes is a 'skills for life' group for young parents (under 24) run in conjunction with the Young Parents housing floating support team. A large number of young parents who attend this group each week have also attended the Babettes group.

Many of our young parents in particular have gone on to continue with education and tertiary qualifications after the birth of their babies. This has been as a direct result of the support and encouragement they have received from the Growbaby community.

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

Growbaby itself is about the recycling of used children's clothing and equipment. If we are able to extend our premises this will allow us to extend the age range we hold up to 10 years and it will allow us to hold maternity clothing. This will aim to reduce the footprint. Because all our items come from donations this is also assisting our donors and beneficiaries to reduce their own footprint.

What are the main activities or outputs you want to deliver?

Growbaby - the provision of good quality, new and second-hand baby clothes and equipment completely free of charge for 0-5's regardless of income, faith or background.

Weekly programmes of parenting (ante and post-natal) courses including a special course for parents of children with sensory processing disorder, as well as life skills classes such as ESOL.

The Antenatal group for young parents (Babettes) run alongside Kingston Hospital Bridge team provides excellent antenatal support for a group of parents who have not regularly engaged with antenatal care, the lead on into the post natal group (Babes) provides skills for life.

What 3 main differences or outcomes do you hope the activities you have described above will achieve?

financially disadvantaged parents have access to good quality clothing and equipment at each stage of their baby's development

parents have access to regular support groups at every stage, giving them confidence and the opportunity to socialise in a safe, friendly and non-judgmental environment

Young parents are equipped and prepared to parent their babies, they also have a session on contraception which reduces the secondary pregnancy rate in this vulnerable group. Once they transition to the post natal group we run a structured programme of skills for life focused on a variety of subjects.

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
Enabling works to next door shop and associated costs	16,923	0	0	0	0	16,923
Rent of next door shop	23,124	23,124	23,124	23,124	23,124	23,124
Utilities	1,212	1,212	1,212	1,212	1,212	6,060
Maintenance	636	636	636	636	636	3,180
Insurance	428	428	428	428	428	2,140
TOTAL:	30,761	13,838	13,838	13,838	13,838	86,113

What income has already been raised?

Source	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total
	0	0	0	0	0	0
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
Comic Relief - core strength local communities	10,000	0	0	0	0	10,000
TOTAL:	10,000	0	0	0	0	10,000

How much is requested from the Trust?

Expenditure heading	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total
Enabling works to next door shop and associated costs	16,923	0	0	0	0	16,923
Rent of next door shop	0	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	80,000
TOTAL:	16,923	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	96,923

Who will benefit?

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

1,620

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

Kingston

Does this project specifically target any groups or communities?

This project will specifically work with the following age groups:

0-15

This project will specifically work with the following gender groups:

Male

This project will specifically work with the following ethnic groups:

Asian/ Asian British (Including Indian; Pakistani; Bangladeshi; Chinese; Any other Asian background)

If Other ethnic group, please give details:

This project will specifically work with Deaf and disabled people:

No

This project will specifically work with LGBTQI groups:

No

This project will specifically work with other groups or communities:

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

We have close ties with social services, health visitors and midwives and many of the people we serve have been referred to us by these agencies.

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: **Fiona Farrelly**

Role within **Founder and co-senior pastor**
Organisation: