

## **CITY BRIDGE TRUST – Delegated Authority (Requests up to £250k)**

### **ASSESSMENT CATEGORY: Bridging Divides - Positive Transitions\Disabled people (choice and control)**

**Ezra Umarpeh**

**Ref: 15612**

**Amount requested: £146,649**

**Adv: Natalie Jordan**

**Amount recommended: £136,100**

**Base: Hackney**

**Benefit: Hackney, Haringey, Barnet, Redbridge**

**Purpose of grant request:** To establish a Home Equipment Delivery Service for older people and those with disabilities.

#### **The Applicant**

Ezra Umarpeh was established within the Orthodox Jewish (Charedi) community in 1999 to provide help to those who are sick, elderly or disabled. It provides Kosher respite rooms and accommodation in and near to 8 London hospitals, and its fleet of 5 volunteer-driven, wheelchair adapted vehicles provide transport for disabled users to attend medical appointments and social occasions. Its remaining core service, which it seeks to develop in this application, is the offer a short-term loan service of a huge inventory of medical and mobility equipment from its warehouses in Barnet and Hackney. The service has a focus on transitional care and crisis support, bridging the gap in wait times for necessary equipment for independent home living for people with a range of disabilities, including older people. It is open to all, but many service users are Orthodox Jewish and face cultural barriers to mainstream care.

#### **Background and detail of proposal**

Currently, the cost and responsibility for the transport of the equipment is borne by service users, who are largely required to collect or arrange delivery from Ezra Umarpeh's warehouses to their home. However, with many users isolated, frail, home-bound, and living in poverty, the current system is limited in benefit. There has been some reliance on volunteers delivering equipment locally but without an appropriate vehicle, restrictions on available hours, and a lack of appropriate training in installation, this is neither a suitable nor sustainable solution.

To address this, Ezra Umarpeh propose a new post of Home Equipment Delivery Technician (HDET). The HDET will receive professional training from the Disability Living Foundation and Level 2 accreditation as a Trusted Assessor, alongside bespoke training in the installation of specialist equipment, and safeguarding training for where issues in the home may be identified.

The service does not duplicate the statutory provision of medical equipment but aims to bridge the gap where waiting times are prohibitive of independence, choice and control, as those disabled face transitional moments including moves from hospital to home. The recommendation excludes ineligible capital costs for the purchase of a delivery van, alternative funding for which has been sourced from Jewish Child's Day since this application was made.

#### **Financial Information**

Operationally, Covid-19 has led to the furlough of staff relating Ezra Umarpeh's respite rooms in hospitals as use of them has been prohibited under related

restrictions. The equipment loan service, however, has seen a significant increase in demand, necessitating more purchases for the collection, as well as the increased cleaning and sterilising and use of PPE, staggering of staff hours, and the suspension of face-to-face over-the-counter loans. Members of staff and the board have also been affected by illness. However, financially, funding was secured to cover the majority of additional costs resulting (including from the Maurice Wohl Foundation), alongside a small use of reserves. It does not intend to make use of the Trust's offer to convert up to 12 months of the grant for use towards its core costs.

Year end as at 31st March	2019 Signed Accounts £	2020 Budget £	2021 Budget £
<b>Income &amp; expenditure:</b>			
Income	692,098	392,664	544,393
- % of Income confirmed as at 30/6/2020	N/A	N/A	23%
Expenditure	(615,178)	(394,558)	(531,326)
Total surplus/(deficit)	<b>76,920</b>	<b>(1,894)</b>	<b>13,067</b>
Split between:			
- Restricted surplus/(deficit)	(3,943)	18,855	(18,855)
- Unrestricted surplus/(deficit)	80,863	(20,749)	31,922
	<b>76,920</b>	<b>(1,894)</b>	<b>13,067</b>
Cost of Raising Funds	152,386	24,094	20,000
% Income	22%	6%	4%
Operating Expenditure (unrestricted)	596,947	368,178	357,116
<b>Free unrestricted reserves:</b>			
Free unrestricted reserves held at year end	156,613	135,864	167,786
No of months of operating expenditure	3.1	4.4	5.6
Reserves policy target	153,795	92,045	89,279
No of months of operating expenditure	3.1	3.0	3.0
Free reserves over/(under) target	2,818	43,820	78,507

### Funding History

Meeting Date	Decision
08/07/2020	(LCRF) A grant of £10,000 to fund the essential and urgent costs outlined in the application, so that the organisation can carry on providing support to Londoners.
20/03/2017	Declined as was for the same purpose as before.
15/03/2012	£48,000 over three years (3 x £16,000) towards the salary and related costs of part-time Volunteer and Transport Co-ordinators, providing services to those with a long-term disability.

### Recommendation

**£136,100 over five years (£25,600; £24,400; £24,500; £30,750; £30,850) towards the salary of a Home Equipment Delivery Technician (20 hpw), training, and vehicle operation costs.**

Approved.....  
Chief Grants Officer /  
Deputy CGO

Approved.....  
Chair

Approved.....  
Deputy Chair

Date.....

Date.....

Date.....