

MEETING 03/10/2013

Ref: 11645

ASSESSMENT CATEGORY - Positive Transitions to Independent Living

Remark! Community

Adv: J Grieve Combes

Base: Camden

Amount requested: £105,060

Benefit: Several London

Amount recommended: £71,600

boroughs

Purpose of grant request: Youth Transition Project for Deaf Young People. To assist the transition from being a deaf child to a functioning young deaf adult in the community.

Background

Remark! Community was set up by deaf people in 2010 to provide an environment in which British Sign Language (BSL) users can be equal, and which enables BSL users to access and benefit from services, and attend social occasions using their own native language. The charity operates across London and Birmingham and runs two play schemes in school holidays; six lunch clubs for older people; a youth football club with Charlton Athletic; a project to bring together deaf school children of the same age; Deaf clubs; and several sports and activity events.

Funding History

None

Current Application

The application seeks funding for a youth transition project, demand for which has emerged from the young people and families Remark! Community works with. The transition to adulthood can be challenging for deaf teenagers as access to medical and social services reduces and previous support disappears as they leave school and outgrow youth clubs. Support that is available to other young people may not meet the communications needs of deaf young people.

Following a successful pilot project for which funding has ended, Remark! Community propose to deliver two monthly workshops with around 20 Deaf young people at each (one in South East and one in North East London) to cover topics including money matters, sexual health, drug awareness, online/personal safety, careers and applying for jobs and life skills. Workshops would last between three and four hours and would include some informal time to get to know each other over a pizza! Several workshops would be kept 'open' to respond to needs identified by young people.

Alongside the workshops, Remark! Community will hold regular 1 to 1 or group advocacy support in venues including colleges, community centres, Remark! Community's offices and home visits for those over 18. Topics

might include on careers and CVs, university, setting up a bank account, making positive life choices and benefit changes. Where necessary Remark! Community will signpost to other agencies such as Greenwich Association for Disabled People. A critical part of the project will be the interaction young people have with older positive deaf role models.

Financial Observations

Independently examined accounts for the year ended 31st October 2012 show a surplus of £17,524 (7.8% of turnover). The organisation's reserves policy is to hold a minimum of 2 months expenditure, which equates to £37,806 based on 2012/13 budgeted expenditure. At 31st October 2012 free unrestricted reserves stood at £41,454 equating to 2.2 months' worth of 2012/13 expenditure.

The latest forecast for the year ended 31st October 2013 shows a surplus of £5,509 (2.4% of turnover) comprising surpluses of £4,258 and £1,251 on restricted and unrestricted funds respectively. The budget for 2013/14 shows a breakeven position on a turnover of £259,814. £207,500, 80% of total income is confirmed at the time of writing with the remainder being sought from the City Bridge Trust.

Officer's Appraisal

Remark! Community is a small and but growing charity with the expertise and reach to support deaf young people who may otherwise fall between gaps in support. The charity has developed an innovative model of working with Remark! Company, a deaf-run company that specialises in television/video production, BSL interpreting, training, translation and multimedia development. The company reinvests its profits into Remark! Community and sublets premises from the charity. To date, Remark! Company has been Remark! Community's main funder. In the future, the charity is keen to diversify its funding sources, though Remark! Company will continue to be a key funder.

The funding request includes team building activities such as camping and sailing. Funding for these has not been recommended due to the specialist risk assessment they would require and their broader focus on Youth Work which it is not your policy to fund. This also reduces the level of funding to a level consistent with your usual practice. The charity will seek other funds or in-kind donations to support these activities.

Recommendation

£71,600 (£35,600; £36,000) over two years towards the salary costs of a Senior Youth Liaison Officer and a Youth Liaison Officer (both 14hrs/week) and running costs of workshops and advocacy support to help deaf young people make a positive transition to adulthood contingent on funds being raised to make the project viable in years one and two and on City Bridge Trust not being the single largest funder in any one year.



The CityBridge Trust

Charity Registration Number: 1035628

Working with Londoners: Application for a grant

Please read the guidance notes before completing this form

Reference:
(office use only)

11645

Date Received:

09/02/2013

Programme
Area:

06

1. About your organisation

Name of organisation applying for grant: Remark! Community	
If the organisation is part of a larger organisation, what is its name?	
Address for correspondence: 18 Leather Lane London	
Postcode: EC1N 7SU Is this your home address? No	
Contact person: Mr. Jonathan Nelson	Position: Community Manager
Phone: 0207 269 2620	Fax:
E-mail: jonny@remark.uk.com	
Website: http://www.remark.uk.com/community	
Legal status of organisation: Registered Charity	
If registered, please give charity number: 1139198	
Date organisation established: 29/06/2010	

2. Request for funds

Under which of the Trust's themes are you applying (see our website or brochure for further details)? Positive Transitions to Independent Living
Purpose for which funds are requested: (25 words maximum) Youth Transition Project for Deaf Young People. To assist the transition from being a deaf child to a functioning young deaf adult in the community.
How much funding is requested? Year 1: £52,314 Year 2: £52,746 Year 3: £0 Total: £105,059

3. Aims of your organisation

Mission statement

Remark! Community is a charity set up by deaf people to work with the deaf community to try and reignite the deaf community spirit of old. We believe that isolation is the most pressing issue deaf people face at the moment. Never before have we had so much information available but never before have we been so alone.

Remark! Community's aim is to provide an environment in which BSL (British Sign Language) users can be equal, an environment which enables BSL users to access and benefit from services, and attend social occasions using their own native language.

We are tackling social isolation and improving our clients quality of life. We improve the wellbeing of deaf people as well as help prevent mental health issues from developing due to poor simulation and low participation.

4. Main activities of your organisation

The main activities organised by Remark! Community include

- running lunch clubs for older people
- running play schemes during school holidays for deaf children
- providing information, advocacy and advice
- running deaf clubs and organising social activities
- running sports and leisure activities
- supporting deaf young people with life choices

We work mainly with elderly people, children and young people. We do have several small projects in addition to the main projects listed such as hosting workshops and providing a Youth Transition Project in South London.

5. Number of staff

Full-time	Part-time	Management committee members	Active volunteers
3	4	4	30

6. How do you support your volunteers?

We offer our volunteers support and training. Training ranges from first aid, safe guarding children, managing challenging behaviour and food and hygiene courses. All volunteers are CRB check before they start the programme. The staff have a close relationship with volunteers and support them well.

7. Property occupied by your organisation

Is the main property owned or leased/rented by your organisation?	If leased/rented, how long is the outstanding lease/rental agreement?
Rented	8 years

8. Finance

From your most recent audited or independently examined accounts, complete the following:

Financial year ended -

Month: October

Year: 2012

Income received from:	£
Voluntary income	94,964
Activities for generating funds	0
Investment income	0
Income from charitable activities	128,316
Other sources	0
Total Income	232,280

Expenditure:	£
Charitable activities	103,314
Governance costs	2,468
Cost of generating funds	99,974
Other	0
Total Expenditure	205,756
Net (Deficit)/Surplus:	17,524
Other Recognised Gains/(Losses)	0
Net Movement in Funds	17,524

Asset position at year end	£
Fixed assets	0
Investments	0
Net current assets	44,720
Long-term liabilities	0
*Total A	44,720

Reserves at year end	£
Endowment funds	41,454
Restricted funds	3,266
Unrestricted funds	0
*Total B	44,720

* Total A and Total B must be the same and should be taken from your balance sheet

9. Statutory funding

For the financial year above, what % of your income was from statutory sources?
0%

10. Material changes

Describe any material changes to the organisation's activities, structure or financial position since the date of the most recent accounts:

None

11. Previous applications to the Trust

Have you applied to the Trust before? If so, please give details:

Month/Year:	Ref:	Grant received:	OR application rejected?
Month/Year:	Ref:	Grant received:	OR application rejected?
Month/Year:	Ref:	Grant received:	OR application rejected?

12. Previous funding received

Funding received by your organisation from the following sources during the last **THREE** years:
(i) City of London (other than the City Bridge Trust) **(ii)** London boroughs **(iii)** London Councils (formerly ALG) **(iv)** Health authorities **(v)** Central government departments **(vi)** Other statutory bodies (e.g. Housing Corporation, Arts Council) - List source, years and annual amounts:

	Year: 2009	Year: 2010	Year: 2011
(i)			
(ii)			
(iii)			
(iv)			
(v)			
(vi)			

13. Previous grants received

Grants received by your organisation from charitable trusts and foundations (other than the City Bridge Trust) during the last **TWO** years. List source, years and annual amounts:

	Year: 2010	Year: 2011
Children in Need	6,332	
Comic Relief		10,000
Coutts Trust	750	
Wakeham Trust	200	
Merlin Magic Wand		495
NDCS		500

14. What steps is your organisation taking to reduce its carbon footprint?

Remark! believes that environmental issues such as pollution, waste management, energy and water conservation, transport issues and the recycling of resources, should be important items on the agenda of the modern employer. Remark! believes that it has a duty to act in a responsible, sustainable and ethical way and to work towards contributing to nationally agreed environmental objectives.

Remark! has a strict Environmental Management Policy which offers clear guidelines to our staff to ensure energy and water is conserved as well as waste managed and recycled where possible.

We conduct a regular audit of its processes and wastes to identify areas where it can commit to long term waste reduction targets, use energy efficient and low power equipment wherever possible and ensure that all buildings, pipes and lofts are properly insulated and maintained in such a way as to be as energy efficient as possible.

15. Purpose

Complete this section whatever the amount of grant requested. **In addition**, if the request is for £25,000 or more in total, a fuller proposal should be sent with this form. Also, if your application is for all or part of new or existing post(s), please enclose a copy of the relevant job description(s) including the salary level.

In order to provide the right information, please refer to guidance note 15 before completing this section.

During the course of the Youth Transition Project we will be offering 3 main services. We will be delivering monthly workshops, organising monthly team building activities and regular sessions for 1 to 1 or group advocacy support. This is all designed to smooth the transition from being a deaf child to becoming a deaf adult functioning in the deaf community. The service that we hope to provide will improve their self-esteem and wellbeing.

Many deaf teenagers experience a dramatic change when they reach 16 or 18 years old, when their access to medical and social services changes significantly. For example, a deaf child receives regular audiology check-ups and advice, whereas it is not uncommon for deaf adults to only go biannually. Similarly deaf teenagers receive plenty of support from their schools, play schemes and youth clubs which stops when as soon as they leave school and outgrow the clubs. This often leaves vulnerable deaf youths exposed to negative influences and we need to plug this gap to ensure they lead worthwhile adult lives.

Many young deaf people will miss out on vital information and support, throughout their childhood. It is critical that deaf young people are offered workshops and training to allow them to access this vital information that they may miss out in society due to their hearing loss affecting the learning process. Educational workshops such as self-esteem, drug and alcohol awareness and sex education are some of the ideas that we would include on the programme. At each workshop we will use deaf trainers where possible. Alternatively, a British Sign Language interpreter will be available to ensure that young people have full access to the information that is being provided. Workshops will also include career options, employment and education paths so they can make positive choices in their life. These will be fun and interactive as well as accessible so hopefully the majority of the youths will actually benefit by absorbing valuable information. This will be later backed up by our youth workers using informal discussions and in 1 to 1 support sessions.

We will run monthly team building sessions which will include camping, orienteering, water rafting and tailor made team building days. These types of activities will help to improve their confidence, encourage team work and improve their communication and life skills. Many deaf young people suffer from social isolation, low self-esteem and depression is common so getting some exercise and fresh air will make a real difference. The monthly activities are exciting so will be a good way of meeting disaffected youths and from this we can build working relationships with them.

Throughout the project there will be deaf role models and staff always available to ensure that the young people have access to the right support and guidance that matches their abilities. Deaf role models are a critical part in the project to ensure that the young people can aspire to be someone they want to be, aim high as well as make a positive contribution to society.

16. Explain how you will monitor and evaluate both your own outcomes and those of the programme under which you are applying.

We will provide evaluation forms for the young people and parents. Some evaluations will be conducted in sign language for those with minimal written skills. We take photos throughout the scheme from start to end - these show how children move from being reserved to developing the confidence to fully participate in activities. We will monitor referral sources aiming to reduce incidences of mental health and police involvement. Outcomes to be measured include increased choices, more people living independently and a reduction in the number of deaf people who are NEET. With a randomly selected number we will provide a longitude survey of progress throughout the project. At the end of the project a report will detail recommendations for consideration by funders for project continuation funding.

17. Beneficiaries

How many people will benefit from the grant per year? 90			
In which local authority is your organisation based? Camden			
Which borough(s) of Greater London will benefit from this grant? (if more than one, please give % for each) Bexley-8%, Bromley-8%, Croydon-8%, Greenwich-8%, Lewisham-8%, Southwark-8%, Barking & Dagenham-6%, Hackney-6%, Haringey-6%, Havering-6%, Islington-5%, Tower Hamlets-6%, Redbridge-6%, Newham-6% and Waltham Forest-5%.			
At what address will the activity be located? Mainly in Greater London. We will travel to various activity centres, sports grounds and colleges.			
What age group will benefit? Over 11 years, over 16 years			
What will the ethnic grouping(s) of the beneficiaries be?			
	%		%
White - British	40	Black - Caribbean	20
White - Irish		Black - African	20
White - Other (please describe)		Black - Other (please describe)	
Asian - Indian	5	Black - British	
Asian - Pakistani	5	Chinese	
Asian - Bangladeshi	5		
Asian - Other (please describe)		Other (please describe) Eastern European	5
Open to everyone			100
What proportion of the beneficiaries will be disabled people? 100%			

18. Funding required for the project

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

(List main expenditure headings and amounts)

Expenditure heading	Year 1 £	Year 2 £	Year 3 £	Total £
Supervisor @ £13ph + 18% for NI, pension, etc	11,168	11,503		22,670
Project worker @ £10ph + 18% for NI, pension, etc	8,590	8,848		17,439
Marketing - flyers	200	0		200
Monthly events	12,000	12,000		24,000
Minibus hire to events	4,800	4,800		9,600
Qualified Youth Worker	2,400	2,400		4,800
Workshop venue hire	2,400	2,400		4,800
Workshop trainer	4,800	4,800		9,600
Workshop refreshments	1,200	1,200		2,400
Overheads including finance, HR	4,756	4,795		9,551
TOTAL	52,314	52,746		105,059

What income has already been raised?(List amounts and main sources)

105,060 JSC

Source	Year 1 £	Year 2 £	Year 3 £	Total £
TOTAL				

What other funders are currently considering the proposal?

Funder	£
TOTAL	

19. Funding requested from the Trust

How much is requested from the Trust? (List main expenditure headings and amounts)

Expenditure heading	Year 1 £	Year 2 £	Year 3 £	Total £
Supervisor @ £13ph + 18% for NI, pension, etc	11,168	11,503		22,670
Project worker @ £10ph + 18% for NI, pension, etc	8,590	8,848		17,439
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Overheads including finance, HR	4,756	4,795		9,551
TOTAL	52,314	52,746		105,059

20. Funding requested from the Trust (continued)

When will the funding be required?

01/06/2013

Is the activity to continue beyond the period for which funding is requested?
If so, how will it be resourced?

We will endeavour to apply for grants from all major sources. The staff and volunteers will also continue to fund-raise. If the project does eventually come to an end we will stop taking on new clients and still maintain a keen interest in those who have benefited from our service.

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

N/A

Declaration on behalf of applicant organisation

I, Jonny Nelson (your name)

am an authorised representative of

Remark! Community (your organisation)

within which I am Community Manager (your position)

To the best of my knowledge, all the information that I have provided in this application form is correct

Signature



Date

1/3/13

Return the completed form to: The CityBridge Trust

City of London
PO Box 270
Guildhall
London EC2P 2EJ

Please

- **do not send this application by fax or e-mail** – unless applying online, applications must be posted to the Trust
- **do send the information in the checklist** – if items are missing, your application will be returned to you
- **do send only the information in the checklist** – if further information is required, we will contact you
- **do ensure you have signed and dated this form** – we cannot accept forms which have not been signed and dated
- **do use the correct postage** – the completed form and additional materials are likely to exceed 100g in weight