

The City Bridge Trust

Investing In Londoners: Application for a grant



About your organisation

Name of your organisation: South London Refugee Association	
If your organisation is part of a larger organisation, what is its name?	
In which London Borough is your organisation based? Lambeth	
Contact person: Ms Celia Sands	Position: Director
Website: http://www.asylumwelcome.org.uk	
Legal status of organisation: Registered Charity	Charity, Charitable Incorporated Company or company number: 1102814
When was your organisation established? 13/04/1991	

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 people accessing debt and legal services More Londoners with improved economic circumstances
Please describe the purpose of your funding request in one sentence. Provision of high quality, independent money, debt and housing advice tailored to the specific needs of vulnerable refugees and migrants in South London.
When will the funding be required? 04/01/2016
How much funding are you requesting? Year 1: £31,710 Year 2: £32,028 Year 3: £32,349 Total: £96,088

Aims of your organisation:

We aim to relieve poverty and distress by supporting refugees, asylum seekers and vulnerable migrants in South London; refugees who are outside their country of origin through fear of persecution, whether or not they have been granted asylum, and migrants who are vulnerable and at risk of destitution and homelessness and who find that their needs are not catered for through mainstream services.

SLRA aims to:

Help refugees and asylum seekers access services and their rights.

Help reduce the isolation experienced by refugees and asylum seekers.

Help refugees and asylum seekers integrate into British society.

The strategies employed by SLRA to achieve its objectives are to:

Continue to build organisational capacity to manage growth and services across South London and to meet the growing and diverse needs of our clients.

Develop the capacity and resilience of refugee and migrant communities by providing learning and volunteering opportunities.

Increase the quantity and develop the quality of our advice and casework service.

Main activities of your organisation:

We provide a range of support services for vulnerable refugee and migrant adults, families and young people.

First and foremost, we offer a welcoming inclusive environment where our clients can feel comfortable. Our services include advice, mentoring and activities which promote wellbeing, resilience and other support which enables our clients to build stable lives in London. We have a core of about 20 volunteers at any one time.

Number of staff

Full-time:	Part-time:	Management committee members:	Active volunteers:
2	4	5	20

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	Three years

Summary of grant request

Need:

Vulnerable refugees and migrants come to us with many problems which 'mainstream' advice agencies cannot help them with. Many lack English language skills. Many are bewildered by what seems an alien culture. Many experience complex and multiple problems, from trauma, mental health issues to poverty, debt, homelessness and destitution. The problems are often compounded by prejudice and discrimination. For some, even apparently straightforward issues, like understanding/ paying bills, can escalate into emergencies unless dealt with. The commonest issues are legal - related to immigration, debt, housing and employment. Our clients' money and debt problems are exacerbated by their lack of literacy and digital literacy. Increasingly public services need to be accessed online. This means that people without IT skills, i.e. most of our clients, are further disadvantaged. We want to move away from a 'traditional' model of advice by empowering them to do more for themselves, becoming less reliant on advice services, freeing up staff to deal with real emergencies.

Delivery:

An advice worker/project co-ordinator will provide individual advice and supervise volunteers in providing advice on immigration, debt, housing etc acting as advocate, signposting clients to specialist agencies. He/she will develop other support:

- Surgeries/workshops to help to resolve practical problems such as household budgeting, debt, welfare benefits, housing, involving outside experts and ex-client volunteers
- Building partnerships, helping to build the capacity and skills of local, community groups working with refugee and migrant communities e.g. Association of Somali Women and Children, South London Tamil Welfare Organisation. These groups are trusted by their communities, they speak their language, enabling them (and us) to reach the most disadvantaged and marginalised people.
- Embedded throughout, ESOL volunteers will provide peer to peer practical English language skills, linked to issues experienced by clients.
- We have 12 laptops/handheld computers, which volunteers will use to provide peer to peer support for clients to access online information and services, building their confidence in using information technology.

What the project will achieve:

The project will enable delivery of high quality independent advice tailored to the specific needs of vulnerable refugees and migrants. We will use our substantial experience of and skills in reaching and supporting refugees, asylum seekers and vulnerable migrants to reach and engage those who are not able to access mainstream services. We will help our clients to overcome immediate crises in order to move on and begin to build positive futures for themselves. We will empower them to take more control of their own lives

Why are we the right organisation?

There is no other local agency with our specialist skills/track record. We have survived partly because we are the only such organisation, but also because we are effective at managing projects, we deliver value for money and our evaluation shows clear evidence of benefit to clients.

Meeting the Trust's programme outcome: Having accessible services and support tailored to their specific needs, more people in greatest need will be able to access immigration, debt, housing and legal services; and, by being better able to stabilise their circumstances, some of London's most vulnerable refugees and migrants will be able to improve their economic circumstances.

Meeting the 'Principles of Good Practice'

1. Involving service users; in the project advisory group; through seeking feedback regularly; and, through annual service evaluation

2. We welcome people from all backgrounds and value diversity -- this is at the heart of our work.
3. Value and support volunteers; providing friendship and peer to peer support with English and IT skills development.
4. Carbon footprint; we have our first environmental and sustainability policy which gives a base for us to build on.

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?

Advice Quality Standard

London Youth Quality Mark (Bronze)

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.

One to one individual advice and case work will be provided to 800 people (over 3 years)

85 surgeries and group workshops to provide information and practical support on priority topics as identified by clients (over 3 years)

Peer to peer ESOL support for 500 people (over 3 years)

Partnerships developed with 6 community groups (over 3 years)

40 volunteers trained and supervised to provide advice and support

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.

800 vulnerable people will access advice or support to resolve their problems and improve their economic circumstances.

300 vulnerable migrants will be able to use knowledge and skills gained to resolve their own problems including debt.

400 vulnerable migrants will experience improved health and wellbeing.

40 volunteers from migrant communities will use new knowledge and skills to increase knowledge and resilience within their communities.

400 vulnerable migrants will experience improved confidence and self-esteem and will be able to begin to integrate into wider UK society.

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?

We would seek to raise further funds from trusts and foundations which will support work with this most vulnerable group

Who will benefit?

About your beneficiaries

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

266

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

Several SE London (30%) Several SW London (70%)

What age group(s) will benefit?

All ages

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?

11-20%

Funding required for the project

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

Expenditure heading	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
Advice Co-ordinator salary 0.8 FTE x £27,148 plus oncosts	26,221	26,483	26,747	79,451
Management and Supervision 0.1FTE x 33,576 plus oncosts	3,690	3,727	3,765	11,182
Overheads	2,200 ^{1,719}	2,218 ^{1,718}	2,237 ^{1,718}	6,655 ^{5,365}
	0	0	0	0

TOTAL:	32,111 ^{31,710}	32,428 ^{32,028}	32,749 ^{32,349}	97,288 ^{96,088}
---------------	-------------------------------------	-------------------------------------	-------------------------------------	-------------------------------------

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
	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
Advice Co-ordinator salary 0.8 FTE x £27,148 plus oncosts	26,211	26,483	26,747	79,451
Management and Supervision 0.1FTE x 33,576 plus oncosts	3,690	3,727	3,765	11,182
Overheads	2,200 ^{1,719}	2,218 ^{1,718}	2,237 ^{1,718}	6,655 ^{5,365}
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0

TOTAL:	32,111 ^{31,710}	32,428 ^{32,028}	32,749 ^{32,349}	97,288 ^{96,088}
---------------	-------------------------------------	-------------------------------------	-------------------------------------	-------------------------------------

Finance details

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

Financial year ended:	Month: March	Year: 2015
-----------------------	------------------------	----------------------

Income received from:	£
Voluntary income	3,296
Activities for generating funds	0
Investment income	0
Income from charitable activities	158,879
Other sources	0
Total Income:	162,175

Expenditure:	£
Charitable activities	145,651
Governance costs	2,074
Cost of generating funds	0
Other	0
Total Expenditure:	147,725
Net (deficit)/surplus:	14,450
Other Recognised Gains/(Losses):	0
Net Movement in Funds:	14,450

Asset position at year end	£
Fixed assets	0
Investments	0
Net current assets	82,699
Long-term liabilities	0
*Total Assets (A):	82,699

Reserves at year end	£
Restricted funds	19,727
Endowment Funds	0
Unrestricted funds	62,972
*Total Reserves (B):	82,699

*** 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:
--

Our financial position for year ending 31 March 2015 is now significantly stronger than it was the previous year.

Previous funding received

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

	2012 £	2013 £	2014 £
City of London (except City Bridge Trust)	0	0	0
London Local Authorities	46,908	46,908	35,000
London Councils	0	0	0
Health Authorities	0	0	2,500
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	2012 £	2013 £	2014 £
BBC Children in Need	0	0	34,895
Lloyds Bank Foundation	0	16,400	16,700
The Paul Hamlyn Foundation	0	23,444	23,680
The Henry Smith Charity	0	0	26,499
Awards for All	0	9,890	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: **Celia Sands**

Role within **Director**
Organisation: