

The City Bridge Trust

Investing In Londoners: Application for a grant



About your organisation

Name of your organisation: Islington Centre for Refugees and Migrants	
If your organisation is part of a larger organisation, what is its name? n/a	
In which London Borough is your organisation based? Islington	
Contact person: Ms Katie Commons	Position: Head of Fundraising and Development
Website: http://www.islingtoncentre.co.uk	
Legal status of organisation: Registered Charity	Charity, Charitable Incorporated Company or company number: 1135205
When was your organisation established? 25/03/2010	

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 participating in the wider community
Please describe the purpose of your funding request in one sentence. Enabling the most vulnerable asylum seekers and migrants in London to access quality English teaching and integrate into their community.
When will the funding be required? 04/09/2017
How much funding are you requesting? <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; padding: 5px;"> Year 1: £25,000 Year 2: £25,000 Year 3: £25,000 </div> Total: £75,000

Aims of your organisation:

Our charitable objectives are: to advance education and relieve financial hardship amongst those seeking asylum and those granted refugee status by the provision of advice, training and support; to advance the education of the public in general about the issues relating to refugees and those seeking asylum; and to advance the Christian religion by living out our love for neighbour and bringing the stranger of any or no faith into our community.

Based on these objectives, we developed strategic aims: to reach all refugees and asylum seekers who need the support the Centre can provide; to help people to make positive transitions in their lives by overcoming practical barriers; to help people overcome language barriers preventing them gaining employment, accessing education and integrating into the community; to provide immediate relief from poverty, hunger, isolation and health issues; to support people to feel connected to the community and the community to be supportive to refugees and asylum seekers.

Main activities of your organisation:

We currently deliver a holistic programme of activities over 3 days a week. This includes daily ESOL classes at two levels. The classes support those with no, or little English language skills, along with more advanced learners; advice and advocacy service to resolve issues relating to access to financial support, accommodation, healthcare, etc. The service also supports clients to resolve asylum and immigration issues; crisis support, including sourcing emergency accommodation; enrichment activities to enable people to build confidence in their English language and to provide space to deal with emotional issues through arts-based activities, such as art and writing, a choir, a book group, a knitting group; wellbeing activities to enable clients to deal with physical and psychological issues, including hosting a health-check service and mindfulness sessions; providing a safe, welcoming space, which includes the provision of hot meals, sourcing and disbursing donations in kind, and a space for people to develop a sense of social connectedness and resilience.

Number of staff

Full-time:	Part-time:	Management committee members:	Active volunteers:
1	4	8	30

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	4 months

Summary of grant request

Destitute asylum seekers are the most vulnerable groups in London. Our clients experience a complex and severe problems: legal, psychological, social and practical. Having fled persecution, human rights abuses, and war, they are negotiating the complex asylum system, characterised by a 'culture of disbelief'. 85% of our asylum seeker clients have no recourse to public funds, and experience homelessness and severe poverty, in combination with isolation and physical and psychological issues. Subsidised English classes are unavailable to asylum seekers not accessing benefits, and are unaffordable at full price. Many destitute asylum seekers are not accessing mainstream services due to fears of being detained or removed and can be reached only by trusted providers, such as ICRM. Their precarious living situation means that flexibility is key to ensuring engagement. English is crucial to enable this isolated group to engage with the community, facilitating wellbeing, integration, and enabling them to form support networks.

We will offer a cohesive programme of ESOL and enrichment. We will offer 240 ESOL classes annually, taught by accredited teachers in a supportive, safe space. The course will be internally assessed. Clients will be able to access a range of enrichment activities to embed their learned language skills and facilitate integration. Our supportive space, where clients can access advice services, therapeutic activities, and hardship grants, will enable clients to fully engage with learning. A programme of voluntary opportunities and partnerships with local organisations will enable clients to engage meaningfully with the community, as well as developing their English skills. We are developing a Service User Involvement programme, and this will enable clients to shape the service to meet their specific needs, as well as building confidence.

Our project will enable 70 destitute asylum seekers to develop and use strengthened English skills. We will support them to develop confidence and autonomy in order to meaningfully integrate with the local community. We will ensure that their complex problems do not prevent them from improving their English and using it in a community setting.

ICRM is the only local organisation able to offer free ESOL. We are an accredited Centre for ESOL provision and a registered training provider. Courses are taught by qualified accredited teachers, and have high success rates. Alongside teaching, our activities ensure that English is used throughout the centre, and ensure students use English in the community as a tool to integration. We have 20 years' experience of this work, and have achieved excellent outcomes for learners. Crucially, our holistic approach ensures that a particularly vulnerable groups are able to access, and achieve in, ESOL. We have extremely high rates of retention; clients access our services due to positive feedback from within the refugee and asylum seeking communities.

Through providing quality ESOL and enrichment, and internally assessing progress, we will ensure that more people, from a particularly vulnerable and hard to reach group, have improved English language skills. Through our enrichment activities and support service, we will enable more people to participate in the wider community. We will also support clients to access mainstream services.

This project meets the Trust's principles of good practice. We involve service users in the work of the Centre, with feedback regularly gathered, and an ex-service user on the Board of Trustees. We are developing a Service User Involvement programme. Welcoming people of all backgrounds is core to our mission, and is evidenced by the diversity of our clients. We value and support volunteers, with a dedicated volunteer manager role and opportunities for development. We are taking steps to reduce our carbon footprint, having moved our administration almost completely to a paper-free system.

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?

n/a

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.

360 ESOL A classes [for those with minimal English]

360 ESOL B classes [for more advanced learners]

150 enrichment activities, including arts and personal development activities

400 support service sessions

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.

70 destitute asylum seekers will have improved English skills

50 destitute asylum seekers will have engaged with the local community through enrichment activities

55 destitute asylum seekers will feel confident in using their English skills within the local community

55 destitute asylum seekers will feel equipped to shape their own English learning

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?

This work is core to our support for asylum seekers, refugees, and migrants in the community. Throughout the life of the grant, we will proactively develop relationships with other funders, including developing our individual supporters' base, and relations with the council.

Who will benefit?

About your beneficiaries

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

70

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

London-wide (100%)

What age group(s) will benefit?

16-24

25-44

45-64

65-74

75 and over

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?

1-10%

Finance details

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

Financial year ended:	Month: August	Year: 2016
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Income received from:	£
Voluntary income	94,599
Activities for generating funds	6,241
Investment income	0
Income from charitable activities	0
Other sources	21
Total Income:	100,863

Expenditure:	£
Charitable activities	142,663
Governance costs	0
Cost of generating funds	11,450
Other	0
Total Expenditure:	154,114
Net (deficit)/surplus:	-53,250
Other Recognised Gains/(Losses):	0
Net Movement in Funds:	-53,250

Asset position at year end	£
Fixed assets	0
Investments	0
Net current assets	34,629
Long-term liabilities	0
*Total Assets (A):	34,629

Reserves at year end	£
Restricted funds	0
Endowment Funds	0
Unrestricted funds	34,629
*Total Reserves (B):	34,629

* 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:

Since our last accounts, we have further developed our fundraising and development capacity. While we primarily relied on grant funding for ESOL, we have developed a portfolio of trust and grant funders, and individual funders, and have hired an experienced fundraiser to further develop this work, in tandem with service development.

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 £
Richard Cloudesley	0	14,888	9,041
Kidron Hall Cross Street Charitable Trust	10,000	0	0
Lillian Nash	10,000	0	0
Sharegift	0	35,000	5,000
ROAN Charitable Trust	0	5,000	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: **Katie Commons**

Role within **Head of Fundraising and Development**
Organisation:

Funding required for the project

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

Expenditure heading	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
Centre Director Salary and Oncosts	9,334	9,334	9,334	28,002
ESOL A Teacher Salary and Oncosts	12,600	12,600	12,600	37,800
ESOL B Teacher Salary and Oncosts	11,000	11,000	11,000	33,000
Support Service Coordinator Salary and Oncosts	5,500	5,500	5,500	16,500
Head of Fundraising and Development Salary and Oncosts	2,500	2,500	2,500	7,500
Enrichment Activities Session Costs (Arts, Choir, etc)	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000
Centre Running Costs (rent, stationery, etc)	5,740	5,740	5,740	17,220
Client Travel Expenses	10,000	10,000	10,000	30,000
Volunteer Costs	3,500	3,500	3,500	10,500

TOTAL:	63,174	63,174	63,174	189,522
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What income has already been raised?

Source	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
Islington VCS	15,000	15,000	15,000	45,000
Comic Relief Core Strength	20,000	10,000	0	30,000
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0

TOTAL:	0	0	0	0
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What other funders are currently considering the proposal?

Source	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0

TOTAL:	0	0	0	0
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How much is requested from the Trust?

Expenditure heading	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
Centre Director salary and oncosts	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000
ESOL A Teacher salary and oncosts	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000
ESOL B Teacher salary and oncosts	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000
Support Service Coordinator salary and oncosts	2,000	2,000	2,000	6,000
Head of Fundraising and Development salary and oncosts	1,000	1,000	1,000	3,000
Enrichment activities (arts, choir, employability, etc)	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000
Running costs (rent, office costs, classroom	5,000	5,000	5,000	15,000

equipment, etc)				
Client travel, to enable clients to attend classes	4,000	4,000	4,000	12,000
Volunteer Expenses	1,000	1,000	1,000	3,000
TOTAL:	25,000	25,000	25,000	75,000