



# BENEFACT TRUST

**Meet The Funders – Transformation Cornwall**  
25 April 2024

**Our Mission:**

To equip and empower Christian organisations to have a positive and transformative impact on lives and communities.

# Meet the Funders – 12 March 2020



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**Benefact Trust**  
makes a **positive and**  
**lasting difference to**  
**people's lives**

by funding and supporting the work of churches and Christian organisations throughout the UK and Ireland.



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## How we're funded

- The grants we give are generated from our ownership of Benefact Group, an international family of award winning, specialist financial services businesses – from advisory and investment management to broking and insurance
- We're in a privileged position to help others – all available profits from the Group fund our charitable giving
- Built on the ethos of giving back, our funding model is distinctive and sustainable – **enabling us to think long term and grow**

# Our Grant Programmes



## Community Impact Grants

Aimed at supporting projects that directly address the social challenges faced by some of the most vulnerable communities in our society.



## Methodist Grants

For building development projects that support for Methodist churches in their mission and ministry, with a particular focus on church growth, and community engagement.



## Building Improvement Grants

For the restoration and improvement of Church buildings.



## Crisis Response Grants

Granted to chosen partners who are responding to specific and pressing emergency situations (not open to applications).



## Heritage Skills for Christian buildings Grants

Focused on the preservation of essential heritage skills and careers through apprenticeships, scholarships and training courses.



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# Community Impact Grants Programme

**Programme aim: to fund work that will clearly have a positive and transformative impact on lives and communities, with particular focus in the following areas:**

- 1. Projects which focus on growing church congregations and communities**  
i.e. encouraging numerical growth and growing faith and spirituality across all ages. Creative and imaginative projects will be encouraged, but typical areas of support are likely to include:
  - Children's and youth projects
  - Resourcing and training for church leaders
  - Evangelism and faith development
  - Outreach and wider engagement through music and the arts

# Community Impact Grants Programme

**2. Projects which address social challenges facing communities.** By definition these will vary over time, but typically these will include:

- The effects of poverty (including food poverty, debt etc.)
- Mental health
- Climate change and environmental sustainability
- Marginalised people e.g. those who are homeless, refugees, ex-offenders, people struggling with addictions and/or substance misuse issues
- Specific children's and young people's needs e.g. children in care, disaffected youth who are NEET
- Human trafficking and modern slavery
- Domestic abuse



# Community Impact Grants Programme

## 3. Improvement of church buildings to enable wider community use.

Typically, projects supported will include:

- Redevelopment and improvement projects which will enable wider community use and community benefit beyond those to the immediate congregation, as identified during community consultation
- Work which includes the provision of disabled access and facilities
- Initiatives which demonstrate a clear environmental benefit



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# Community Impact Grants Programme

4. In addition, for schools and theological educational institutions with a clear Christian ethos, the following projects will be supported:

- Improving Collective Worship and the teaching of Christianity
- Outdoor worship spaces/prayer gardens
- Chaplaincy and pastoral care
- Projects with an environmental/sustainability focus
- For Theological Education Institutions, general improvements to buildings, facilities and equipment that will provide clear benefit for students mental health/therapeutic support, especially for vulnerable children, and mentoring



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# Building Improvements Grants Programme

Our church buildings have always been a focal point in villages, towns and cities throughout the UK, and can continue to play an important role in bringing communities together – but only if we value and protect them.

This grant programme provides funds for:

- Capital projects for essential and unexpected repairs to buildings (not covered by insurance)
- Aesthetic and functional enhancements to church buildings
- Grants of up to £2,500 to help fund roof alarms for churches, offering much needed protection against the theft of metal

# Top tips for applying for a grant:

- Take time to research the funder you're applying to and tailor your application to them. Try to not copy-paste stuff across different application forms.
- Get in touch if you have any questions.
- Make your application clear and state exactly what you need the funding for. We want to know what impact your project will have.
- Show evidence of how your community will be affected by your project by including feedback and survey results.
- Make your application stand out from the crowd, think about the person reading it and remember to come across as human.
- Remember to read through the application form thoroughly before applying so you can have all practical information to hand.

# Your Application!

- The specific grant programme objectives your project will address
- A brief overview of your project (approx. 500 words)
- The intended outcomes of the project, including outcome indicators and timeframes – think about the impact you are wanting to make
- Details of other funding already in place/fundraising plans, and project sustainability
- Use the budget template and only include eligible costs

## A few things to bear in mind ...

- We require at least 30% of the funding to be in place
- Only one successful application in a two-year period to each grants programme
- Impact Survey



# Adding value

Our advice and resources hub features blogs, podcasts and useful tools focused on the following areas:

- Project planning and impact reporting
- How to get grant funding
- Publicising your project
- Top tips for applying
- Connecting with young people
- Advice from the experts
- End of year reporting toolkit

 <p>Podcast: Responding to social issues – a funder's perspective</p>	 <p>Warm hearts: how to support those in need this winter</p>	 <p>Podcast: How to measure the impact of your project</p>	 <p>Life on the water – a porthole into Waterways Chaplaincy</p>
 <p>Podcast: How to successfully apply to grant funders</p>	 <p>The funding landscape for churches and charities</p>	 <p>The effect of Covid-19 on children and young people post-pandemic</p>	 <p>Five ways to make your church accessible this Christmas</p>
 <p>Youthscape: supporting young people's mental health</p>	 <p>Sanctuary Mental Health: recovering together</p>	 <p>Renew Wellbeing: bringing communities together again</p>	 <p>Kintsugi Hope: mental health friendly spaces</p>

# Get involved

Giving is at the heart of what we do. Visit our website, sign up for our quarterly newsletter and follow us on social media for new grant programmes and beneficiary success stories.

We achieve great things with our beneficiaries so please share our success!



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“Our grants are more than funds; they're stories of lives changed and communities united. In the face of challenges, together, we make a meaningful difference.

Giving is at the heart of who we are and what we do.”

**Tim Carroll**  
**Chair, Benefact Trust**







**Any questions?**



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