CREATING CHANGE TOGETHER

CORONAVIRUS APPEAL UPDATE - WEEK 24
It’s become increasingly clear through this emergency that to provide support to those who need it requires a truly collaborative effort; this is especially true when trying to reach the most at-risk groups. So, I’m delighted since our last Appeal update in June, we’ve been able to welcome more funding partners who can provide targeted support for unmet needs created by this crisis. The following short report captures how our Allocations Committee, Equity Scrutiny Group and independent grant assessors have been working together to ensure funds reach all those who need them, efficiently and equitably, in line with the National Emergencies Trust’s founding vision.

I cannot thank you enough for your support in making this all happen. Your generous donations are making a huge difference across the UK and will continue to do so for many months to come, as the longer-term impacts of this emergency come to the fore. From 1st September, we will not be actively seeking further Appeal funds in order that we can start to prepare ourselves for the next national emergency. However, we remain deeply committed to ensuring all funds received will reach those in greatest need, whoever and wherever they are.

The charitable sector, in particular grassroots charities and groups, have been lightning-fast to respond to the need they saw on their doorsteps. Closely connected into their communities, they have been attentive to the challenges created, transforming their services to support the most vulnerable; from mental health support delivered virtually to doorstep food parcels.

We’ve been truly privileged to see these grassroots efforts play out in the nearly 10,000 successful applications for Coronavirus Appeal funds granted by Community Foundations UK-wide. As we put colourful rainbows in our windows to thank vital workers on the health frontline, at the same time thousands of small, determined organisations were also showing their true colours supporting their communities.

Richard Dannatt
General, The Lord Dannatt,
Chairman, National Emergencies Trust

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£90M Funds Raised
£85M Funds Allocated
£240,000 Largest Grant for Scottish Refugee Council, funding distributed through Foundation Scotland
£4,532 Average Grant Size
£35 Smallest Grant for Seed of Hope, distributed via Somerset Community Foundation

9,500 Grants Made to grassroots charities and groups totalling £42,460,628

TOP 5 NEEDS SUPPORTED

- Technology and IT Equipment
- Information and Advice
- Social Isolation
- Food and Essentials
- Mental Health Support Services
One in six people living in the UK has sought charitable support in recent months as a direct result of the coronavirus pandemic.

‘Opinium surveyed 2,000 UK adults (nationally representative) between 31 July and 4 August.’
Aim: Support the urgent needs of those who found themselves in extraordinary, challenging circumstances.

Distributed £27,634,990
funding UK-wide by the end of April through partnership with UK Community Foundations (UKCF)

The Hamlet in Norfolk supports children living with disabilities and their families. They’ve used Coronavirus Appeal funds to provide practical and emotional support remotely. A local parent said: “In these difficult times where my son just can’t understand why he can’t leave the house, I have needed The Hamlet’s support and been so grateful for the hard work they have put in.”

The Hamlet
funding distributed by Norfolk Community Foundation

Scotland £1,806,893
Northern Ireland £356,200
North £1,806,893
Midlands £356,200
Wales £1,806,893
London £1,806,893
South East £356,200

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Supported 4,079 grassroots groups who were agile to respond to urgent needs, in particular access to food and essentials, and emergency shelter for those impacted before Government measures were introduced.

Responding to the needs of the local community in Edinburgh during the coronavirus crisis, Scran Academy grew dramatically using National Emergencies Trust funds to boost their ability to provide for those who need it most. Delivering more than just food they provide vital human contact and connection. Giving a lifeline to the vulnerable.

Most successful applicants received their funding within seven days

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In April, emerging data showed the heightened impact of the Coronavirus on those from Black, Asian and Minoritised Ethnic communities.
Aim: Maintain funding momentum to meet the nation’s evolving needs and enhance support for those from hard-hit BAME* communities, in particular through BAME-led groups.

Created a £3.4million fund with Comic Relief for BAME-led organisations. Grants would start to be made available from mid-July through ten organisations.

“UKCF data showed 17.4% of Appeal funds distributed had gone to charities and groups whose primary audience is BAME communities and 12% had gone to BAME-led charities and groups.”

Dedicated an initial £250K for organisations that can encourage even more BAME-led groups to apply for UKCF funds, improving long-term infrastructure.

GREEN LANE MOSQUE AND COMMUNITY CENTRE, BIRMINGHAM

Providing a food bank seven days a week for those in need, essential delivery services and online counselling to ease anxiety.

Saleem Ahmed, Head of Welfare Services, said, “The effects of coronavirus are being felt heavily by those in our community and we have done our best to help through our food bank, delivery, and counselling services. We appreciate the funds from the National Emergencies Trust, which mean we can continue to provide this much-needed support.”

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*Black and Minoritised Ethnic Communities
MEETING EVOLVING NEEDS AND ENHANCING SUPPORT FOR BAME COMMUNITIES

May & June

Embedded the Association of Charitable Foundations’ (ACF) excellent Principles For Funders in the Covid-19 Context into our grant agreement with Comic Relief.

Continued to flow funds through Community Foundations, supporting 4,106 local groups all over the UK and crown dependencies to meet evolving needs.

Social Investment Fund LBG (Guernsey)

Provided Les Cotils with a £5,000 grant to run the ‘Food for Families’ project, delivering home cooked meals to families worst affected by the crisis.

“We recognise that to live our values as an organisation and a sector, equity, diversity and inclusion must become central to everything we do. ACF’s funding principles are one step in doing that and have been a valuable tool for us to put our values into practice. We have started to embed these principles into funder agreements and into our EDI action plan to ensure we are accountable. Our hope is by starting this work now, we can become a stronger network in future emergencies and in non-crisis situations, ensuring everyone gets the support they need.”

Mhairi Sharp, COO
National Emergencies Trust

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Seven million people expect to seek charity help this year due to the pandemic, nearly two thirds for the first time ever.

‘Opinium surveyed 2,000 UK adults (nationally representative) between 31 July and 4 August.’
"What NET has done to ensure the £12m is awarded to the organisations best placed to support at-risk communities is work one can be really proud of. It was not good enough to just be a service deliverer. It was not good enough to just say, at the top surface level, ‘I support x community’. “What you really had to demonstrate is how you were reaching into the depths of your community, how you would reach all the different groups within it. A lot of work went into ensuring that those questions were answered.”

Marcia Asare, independent grants assessor for NET

The provision of helpline services will form a key component of the funding. Some partners will also deliver grants to organisations providing specialist advice and hands-on support to vulnerable groups. Decisions on delivery of these grants will be made by people with lived experience of the issues faced.

The first wave of funding, just over £6m will be distributed to a disability support network, DPO COVID-19 Coalition, led by Disability Action NI, the LGBT+ Consortium Helpline Alliance, domestic abuse charity, Refuge, the refugee and asylum seekers support consortium led by Refugee Council and Cruse Bereavement Care.

Each partner will provide support to a vulnerable group that we believe may have been underserved through the pandemic so far according to our gap analysis.

Announced plans to distribute £12million of funds to a range of charity partners offering targeted support to some of the UK’s most vulnerable groups.

CLICK HERE to find out more about the new partners we have announced so far.
LGBT+ CONSORTIUM

“People are already disproportionately affected by issues including negative mental health and domestic abuse. This has only increased during the pandemic with many in our communities struggling with living in difficult lockdown situations where they cannot be “out” or have had issues with accessing vital medications. Evidence shows that LGBT+ people want support from organisations that understand their lived experiences so we are delighted to be supported by NET and ensure support remains available to as many LGBT+ people as possible.”

PAUL ROBERTS
CHIEF EXECUTIVE
LGBT+ CONSORTIUM

DISABILITY ACTION NI

“What has become clear, from Disability Action’s COVID-19 survey, is the feeling of many disabled people that their voices are being lost in the noise or worse, simply ignored, in the confusion that is unfolding from COVID-19. The opportunity of this consortium to come together to provide direct support to grassroots DPO’s (Disabled Peoples Organisations) across the UK, to ensure they are strengthened and sustained to provide vital advice and support, will enable local action for local needs. NET’s principles of directing this funding to bodies representing groups highly impacted by COVID-19 based on a human rights approach is to be welcomed.”

ANDREA BROWN
CHIEF EXECUTIVE
DISABILITY ACTION NI

REFUGE

“Covid-19 and the lockdown have created additional challenges and suffering for those experiencing domestic abuse. Our 24-hour confidential helplines provide vital practical information, a gateway to specialist services and much-needed emotional support to the growing number of individuals reaching out at this difficult time. Now, as lockdown measures ease, our services are needed more than ever. With NET’s support, our national Helplines can respond to this growing need as we all continue to navigate the Covid-19 crisis. Refuge welcomes the opportunity provided by NET to collaborate with NEXUS NI, Scottish Women’s Aid and Welsh Women’s Aid to increase the support available for survivors of domestic abuse across all nations of the UK through our vital Helpline services.”

LISA KING
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS
AND EXTERNAL RELATIONS
REFUGE

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“Many more people have been bereaved over the last few months as a result of the coronavirus pandemic. This means that bereavement support is more important now than ever. The death of someone close can be one of the most distressing things any of us will face, and we want to be there for anyone who needs us. The funding from the National Emergencies Trust will enable us to continue increasing capacity on our National Helpline, reach a wider audience, as well as be more accessible to those most in need. This also includes specific funding to increase the diversity of our volunteers and clients.”

STEVEN WIBBERLEY
CHIEF EXECUTIVE
CRUSE BEREAVEMENT CARE

“During the allocations process I was very impressed by the rigorous approach to grant assessment. By implementing layers of checks and balances, the Equity Scrutiny Group and the Allocations Committee ensured a constant focus on getting funding to underserved communities.”

UGO IKOKWU
INDEPENDENT GRANTS ASSESSOR FOR NET

“We are delighted to receive this very substantial and timely National Emergencies Trust grant award. It will enable us to reach out and provide a vital lifeline to many marginalised refugees and people seeking asylum whose vulnerability have been exacerbated by the Covid-19 pandemic. Working closely with our partners in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, we will deliver an emergency infoline for those needing immediate, practical support; enhance our capacity to assist those in temporary accommodation because of the virus; and extend our provision of specialist, trauma-informed, mental health care for children and adults in the asylum system.”

MAURICE WREN
CHIEF EXECUTIVE
REFUGEE COUNCIL

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"As a member of both NET’s Allocations Committee and Equity Scrutiny Group, I am acutely aware of the real responsibility we have to fairly distribute the funds raised across the UK. No community can be left behind, and we are committed to helping those disproportionately impacted by the coronavirus crisis."

VICKY ROSIN
NET TRUSTEE

One in eight people living in the UK expect to seek support from a charity or voluntary body in the next 12 months as a direct result of challenges created by the pandemic as the economic impacts really come to the fore.

As we move from the crisis response phase of this pandemic into the longer term emergency, we will continue to ensure that Appeal funds raised reach those in need all over the UK. But we must also focus our attention on preparing for the next emergency. That could be a second wave of this same crisis, at a local or national level, or it could be a new domestic disaster that we can’t foresee.

Opinium surveyed 2,000 UK adults (nationally representative) between 31 July and 4 August.

38% anticipate they will need help accessing food due to changes in financial circumstances.

58% help with living arrangements due to financial reasons.

51% employment support and training due to job loss.

KEY REASONS PEOPLE EXPECT TO SEEK CHARITABLE ASSISTANCE
Overcoming their own challenges to be there for others, donors to the Coronavirus Appeal have enabled charities across the UK to make a meaningful difference to their communities.

In the coming months we’ll be exploring how this incredible community of corporates, trusts and the public could come together again to create change during the next national emergency, whenever and wherever that may arise.

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR SUPPORT

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