

Community Champions Fund Criteria 2021

This funding is designed to provide small grants to groups and organisations working in Sefton. It is targeted at improving the mental and physical wellbeing of members of some of Sefton's most vulnerable groups, with specific focus on the following:

- Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic communities
- Older people who are socially isolated and have poor mental health as a result
- Young people who are socially isolated and have poor mental health as a result
- People with learning disabilities
- People with mental health issues
- People with physical disabilities
- People with long-term health conditions
- People who frequently attend primary and/or secondary health care
- Traveller communities

Criteria

1. Voluntary, community or faith groups working in or providing services to the residents of Sefton.
2. The maximum grant available to organisations is £2,500.
3. Organisations involved in the project for which the grant will be available need to fall into the categories below:
 - Be a constituted voluntary, community or faith organisation, have a bank account with a minimum of two signatories and be able to provide a copy of their constitution
 - Be a Community Interest Company with no share holding
 - Be a Registered Charitable OrganisationAnd also:
 - Follow an open access policy
 - Be non-political
4. Applications for funding must demonstrate they:
 - a. Have completed the necessary risk assessments required to meet the COVID Secure guidelines provided by the Government. Please see more details on this on the Sefton CVS website (<https://seftoncvcs.org.uk/covidrecovery/>) The website contains links about the safe use of multi-purpose community facilities as well as guidance for faith community organisations.
 - b. Support the aim of Living Well Sefton to reduce health and social inequalities and improve the health and wellbeing outcomes of people and families in our most deprived communities by helping to:

- Address inequality by improving the health of the poorest fastest.
 - Increase resilience at individual, household and community levels.
 - Contribute to supporting people to stay well and live independently for longer, without reliance on additional support such as social care and the NHS.
 - Being innovative or creative to address a specific problem or need.
 - Working in partnership with others to avoid duplication and maximise impact.
5. Activities funded should have clear and specific outcomes to be achieved within a defined period of time. This may be reviewed due to COVID 19 Government guidance being updated regularly.
 6. Delivery of funded projects should not be dependent on groups securing further additional funding.
 7. Community Champions Grants cannot fund political activities, religious activities or the promotion of personal objectives.
 8. Groups are required to take reasonable steps to ensure that their activities can be made available for as broad a range of people as possible and that positive measures are put in place to remove any barriers to access.
 9. All organisations must have safeguarding policies in place as well as being COVID 19 secure.
 10. Organisations awarded a grant must have the appropriate public liability and employer's liability insurance for the activities that they provide if necessary.
 11. Applications must be submitted using the Community Champions Fund 2021 application form.
 12. Funding will not be awarded for activities that have already taken place.
 13. Organisations and individuals receiving funding will be required to update Living Well Sefton on the project and submit a final report to evaluate the impact of the project. Living Well Sefton can provide support with monitoring and evaluation of outcomes.

Further Information for Applicants

- I. The deadline for applications to be received by is 14th May, 2021 at 5pm.
- II. The Community Champions Grant is a limited fund.
- III. We encourage applicants to have a viable bank account before applying for funding.
- IV. Grant funds awarded will need to have been spent before the end of December 2021 with any remaining funds being repaid four weeks after this date.
- V. The decision to award a Community Champions Grant rests with the Grant Panel. All decisions are final and there is no appeal process.
- VI. All successful applications will be notified within four weeks of the application deadline date.