Ending Women’s Homelessness

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Do organisations have to be registered as a charity to apply?
Yes, organisations must be one of the following in order to apply:
- Registered charity
- Registered Community Interest Company

Can I apply as an individual?
No. We do not fund individuals we only fund organisations.

How much can I apply for?
You can apply for a grant up to £100,000 for the large grants programme and up to £30,000 for the small grants programme (small grants open to organisations with under £2 million turnover only)

Where do the funds come from?
The Tampon Tax Fund was set up to support charities supporting women through the VAT raised on sanitary products. Homeless Link has been awarded £2 million by the Tampon Tax Fund for a programme of grants to frontline services supporting women experiencing homelessness or those at risk.

What types of organisations do you fund?
We will fund frontline organisations who are supporting women experiencing homelessness or those at risk and who meet the following criteria:
- Registered charity
- Operating in England
- There at least 3 unrelated trustees
- Proposed activity is in line with the organisation’s charitable mission/purpose (constitution will be reviewed)
- Organisation is delivering housing and/or support services directly to women who are homeless or at risk of homelessness
- Demonstrates how the funding will increase gender and trauma-informed services and cross-sector working
- Full accounts (audited or independently examined) are submitted
- Recent management accounts are submitted
- A bank statement from the last 3 months is submitted (for small grants only)
- For small grants, turnover of under £2 million

What types of activities do you fund?
Proposals must demonstrate and evidence how they will meet one or more of the following outcomes:
Homeless Link

- Increase in number of services offering gender and trauma-informed support
- Increased engagement from services with women who are homeless or at risk of homelessness
- Reduction in women sleeping rough
- Increase in number of staff skilled to support women
- Increase in number of staff skilled to work with women with multiple disadvantage
- Increase in services working with Local Authorities as part of homelessness and rough sleeping strategies

**Activity that could be funded includes, but is not limited to:**
- Increase capacity for women-only provision
- Create women-only spaces and specialist support in mixed services
- Develop partnerships between the women’s and homelessness sectors
- Increase opportunities for the co-location of services
- Identify prevention opportunities with women who are hidden homeless
- Up-skill homelessness staff to work with issues such as domestic abuse
- Up-skill specialist women’s sector staff to work with multiple disadvantage
- Enable homelessness and women’s sectors to contribute to the implementation of Local Authority strategies
- Improve pathways into services to reduce the number of women sleeping rough
- Pilot or embed targeted interventions for under-represented groups of women such as BAME, youth, LGBTQI, women with offending histories, and women with no recourse to public funds (NRPF).
- This is not a definitive list – projects should be responsive to their local context and to the needs of women who will be accessing funded services.

**Are there priority areas for the fund?**
We welcome a range of local initiatives and partnerships and particularly welcome applications from:

- Partnerships between specialist women’s organisations and homelessness services.
- Organisations working with underrepresented and marginalised groups e.g. women with NRPF, BAME, LGBTQI.
- Applicants should demonstrate an understanding of gender and trauma informed practice in their Stage 1 proposal.

**What will you not fund?**
Grant funding must be used for delivering front line services and we are unable to fund the following types of activities:

- Activities of a political or exclusively religious nature
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- lobbying or activity intended to influence or attempt to influence Parliament, Government or political parties
- Using grant funding to petition for additional funding;
- Input VAT reclaimable by you from HMRC;
- Goods or services that you have a statutory duty to provide;
- Payments reimbursed or to be reimbursed by other public or private sector grants;
- Contributions in kind (i.e. a contribution in goods or services, as opposed to money);
- Depreciation, amortisation or impairment of fixed assets owned by You;
- The acquisition or improvement of fixed assets by you.
- Interest payments (including service charge payments for finance leases);
- Gifts to individuals and promotional items;
- Entertaining (entertaining for this purpose means anything that would be a taxable benefit to the person being entertained, according to current UK tax regulations);
- Statutory fines, criminal fines or penalties; or
- Liabilities incurred before the issue of this funding agreement unless agreed in writing by Us;
- Use in respect of costs reimbursed or to be reimbursed by funding from any other source;
- Use to cover interest payments (including service charge payments for finance leases); and
- Use to purchase buildings or land.

Do I need to have match funding or co-funding?
No, but you are encouraged to seek other sources of funding where this will support your project or sustainability.

When do any successful awards need to be spent?
All successful awards must be spent by 31st March 2021. NB: the large grants will be paid in two instalments and the small grants will be paid in one instalment.

Who can I contact if I have an enquiry?
We strongly advise all applicants to read our application guidance notes, and read answers to all of our FAQs before submitting your enquiry.

If you have an enquiry that is not covered in our guidance materials you can send your enquiry to fund@homelesslink.org.uk Please insert ‘Ending Women’s Homelessness Fund enquiry’ as your email subject and provide your organisation and contact name.

If you wish to speak to someone on the phone, please leave your contact name and number and we will arrange a call back. We aim to get back to all enquiries within 5 working days.

When can I apply?
Stage 1 will open for applications at midday on Friday 28th June 2019. The stage 1 application deadline is Wednesday 31st July at 5pm. If successful at stage 1 you will be sent a link to access...
the stage 2 application form. The stage 2 application deadline is 5pm on Thursday 22nd August 2019.

**How can I check whether my organisation is eligible for funding?**
Please read the ‘who can apply?’ section on our website and the application guidance.

**How can I check whether my proposal is eligible for funding?**
Please read the ‘what we will fund’ and ‘what we don’t fund’ sections on our guidance and website which provides details on eligibility.

**Will you fund existing projects or does it need to be a new project?**
We will fund activity within existing projects that meet the Ending Women’s Homelessness Fund criteria outlined in the guidance and on the website and that is not already funded.

**Can I apply in partnership with another organisation and if so, what are the guidelines?**
Yes, you can apply in partnership with another organisation and we are strongly encouraging partnerships between specialist women’s organisations and homelessness services through this grants programme.

However one of the organisations must apply as the lead organisation and if successful the grant will only be made to the lead organisation. It is essential that all partner organisations receiving funding also meet the eligibility criteria.

Please note that the main applicant will be responsible for the grant, including any portion which is forwarded to the other partners. They will need to ensure, therefore, that they spend the money appropriately within the conditions of the offer and that they can report on what was achieved at by both partners when monitoring is due.

**Will successful applicants receive any support as part of the award?**
Yes. We will be providing grantees with support to share learning and network opportunities.

**Will you be looking at what other activities are taking place in applicants’ areas as part of the assessment process?**
Yes. If we feel that you will be duplicating, or overlapping, the work of another project, then we will look at this as part of the assessment. In some cases we may encourage local organisations delivering similar services in the same area to explore opportunities for submitting partnership bids. We encourage applicants to consider local partnerships where possible.

**How will funding decisions be made?**
Each applicant is assessed on its own merit according to the criteria published in the application guidance.

The Grants Panel (listed on the webpage) then seek to make awards that meet the overall aims of the programme at stage 2.
What if my application is unsuccessful?
If your application is unsuccessful, we will write to you to notify you of the outcome. We will not provide detailed feedback but can provide some brief feedback on the key reasons your application was unsuccessful. You are not able to appeal our decision, but if you have a complaint about how your application has been dealt with, please contact us at fund@homelesslink.org.uk ‘Ending Women’s Homelessness Application complaint.’
What we do
Homeless Link is the national membership charity for frontline homelessness agencies and the wider housing with health, care and support sector. We work to improve services through evidence and learning, and to promote policy change that will ensure everyone has a place to call home and the support they need to keep it.

Let’s end homelessness together
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