Young Peoples Emotional Support

In Staffordshire, we want every child and young person to have good emotional health and wellbeing and be supported in strong and resilient communities. Around one in four children in Staffordshire aged 11-12 have an emotional wellbeing issue, and around one in five young people aged 11-16 years old have a probable, diagnosable, mental condition.

The Council will provide small grants to VCSE organisations in Staffordshire for projects that assist with improving emotional health and wellbeing of young people aged 11-19 years (up to 25 years with SEND or EHCP).

Aims of the fund

The purpose of the small grants scheme is to support the sustainability and growth of the VCSE sector in order for it to contribute to improving emotional health and wellbeing outcomes of Staffordshire's young people. It will enhance local capacity, support co-produced solutions, build on existing community assets and use local insights to respond to the needs of Staffordshire's young people.

The priority aims of this programme are:

1) To help maintain and improve emotional health and wellbeing in young people.
2) To contribute towards the prevention and escalation of emotional health and wellbeing needs in young people, recognising where more support might be needed.
3) To provide a strengths-based approach that focuses on developing young people's resilience, self-worth, positive relationships and self-care.
4) Builds skills, knowledge and confidence of young people around self-help or in finding help with emotional health and wellbeing.

Activities should focus on 'getting advice' and 'getting help' areas of the nationally recognised **iThrive framework** for children's mental health, with emphasis on equity of access for young people who need support.

Applications are encouraged from both **youth-focused organisations** and **wider community groups** (such as allotment groups, residents' associations or hobby clubs), where proposed projects **offer inclusive, imaginative or innovative ways to strengthen young people's emotional wellbeing**.

Eligible organisations

Not for profit organisations:

- Constituted voluntary / community group
- Registered Charities
- Social Enterprises (including CIC's)

Groups must have been established for longer than 12 months to apply

Ineligible organisations

This programme is not able to support:

- Local authorities
- Parish and Town Councils
- Schools
- Other Statutory Organisations
- National organisations with no local arm
- Private Businesses
- Groups that have not been established for at least 12 months

Geographical Reach

Staffordshire only (not including Stoke on Trent)

- Cannock Chase
- East Staffordshire
- Lichfield
- Newcastle under Lyme
- South Staffordshire
- Stafford
- Staffordshire Moorlands
- Tamworth

Eligible costs

- Proportionate core costs
- Equipment Costs
- Small items of equipment
- Training Costs
- Revenue Costs
- Project Costs
- Event Costs

Ineligible costs

- **Overhead costs** which are **more that 10%** of the total grant requested.
- **Staff costs / core costs** for existing work – only additional project costs will be eligible.
- Funding towards **religious projects** that promote religion (although organisations can be funded for non-religious projects).
- **Political campaigning activities** specific to any one party, including participation in political demonstrations, support of a political party, or the issuing of material which supports or opposes a particular party or government
- **Statutory bodies or provision**, including towards the provision of core statutory services or services that carry out a statutory responsibility
- **Retrospective funding**, where the project has already occurred or for goods and services which have already been ordered or purchased prior to funding being approved. The scheme cannot fund any part of an activity that has already taken place by the time we are able to make a decision on your application.
- Funding for activities or projects that **duplicate interventions**, programmes or services that are already commissioned, funded or delivered by SCC or partners across Staffordshire.
- Funding costs to **extend, replace or sustain existing provision** that is already funded elsewhere.
- Funding activities or projects where **engagement with arts, sports or recreation is the primary outcome.** The primary outcome of all projects and activities must be directly related to preventing, reducing or responding to clearly identified young people's emotional health and wellbeing needs.
- Funding projects or activities that take place in, or with, an **educational establishment with limited benefit to young people in the local community**. If pupils of a school are the main group of people to engage with the project, then it will not be eligible for support.
- Funding **equipment or asset purchases**, which your organisation will keep and use after the project has finished– for example, cameras, computers, furniture and fittings for venues, vehicles – or for, constructing, repairing or maintaining a building.

Grant amount

Organisations are able to apply for a grant of up to £5000

Duration of projects

Year 1 will have a reduced delivery timeframe, so please ensure that your project dates reflect this

Activities will need to be delivered by **1st April 2027** with final reporting due end **April 2027**

Monitoring

- End of Grant report will be due at the end of the year
- You will be expected to show all evidence of expenditure to show the grant spend, please ensure you keep all receipts and invoices
- There will be various checkpoints throughout the year
- There may be opportunities for Community Foundation and Staffordshire County Council to visit your project during delivery

Supporting documents required

- **Governance Document** – Constitution, Memorandum and Articles of Association
- **Accounts** – either independently examined, audited or a record of income and expenditure.
- **Bank Statement** – this will need to be in the name of the organisation, no older than 3 months old and clearly showing the account name, number and sort code. The bank account must have at least two signatories, who are not related.
- **Details of signatories**
- **Safeguarding Polices**
- **Equality and Diversity Policy / statement**
- **Quotes** for capital equipment