

Combating Youth Homelessness

Funding Criteria

The Berkeley
Foundation

This initiative

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Eligibility

Application process

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Introduction to the Berkeley Foundation

The Berkeley Foundation is an independent registered charity established by Berkeley Group in 2011. We support young people, their families and their communities across London, Birmingham and the South of England.

We work in partnership with the voluntary sector across four areas:

- Homes – helping people to access and sustain good quality housing
- Jobs – reducing barriers to work
- Skills – developing young people’s talents
- Care – opportunity regardless of illness or disability

Our funding comes from two main sources. The Berkeley Group provides core funding, and Berkeley staff raise money with the help of family, friends and subcontractors. Berkeley Group matches all staff fundraising and covers the Foundation’s overheads, so that every penny raised is spent on charitable activity

Find out more on our website: www.berkeleyfoundation.org.uk

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Our approach

We launched our updated strategy in January 2017. This sets out ten clear priorities for our work going forward, accompanied by a set of targets for the period to April 2018, which will be renewed on a rolling basis.

Our strategy forms the basis for our approach to grant making. We aim to:

- Provide targeted support to those in our society who face the greatest barriers
- Increase the level of funding we commit each year
- Engage as many Berkeley staff in our work as possible
- Champion innovative projects that model new solutions to social issues
- Work in a way that builds the capacity of our charity partners and the wider sector
- Create true partnerships, which add real value to both organisations.

You can read our strategy here:

<http://www.berkeleyfoundation.org.uk/our-strategy>

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Combatting Youth Homelessness

The Berkeley Foundation is launching **Combatting Youth Homelessness**, a funding programme which will support young people aged 18-30 years who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness in the communities where we work.

Young people are three times more likely to have been homeless in the last five years than older adults^[1]. 225,000 young people in London have stayed in an unsafe place because they had nowhere safe to call home^[2] and only one in five aged 16-24 seek help from the council. Welfare reform and the housing crisis are only worsening the situation. Despite the evident need to support young people experiencing or at risk of homelessness, services for young people have had their funding squeezed significantly over the last few years.

Through this funding programme, we are aiming to support those in need to access good quality, sustainable housing solutions, as well as helping at-risk young people to avoid homelessness.

[1] Watts, B., Johnsen, S., & Sosenko, F. (2015) *Youth homelessness in the UK: A review for The OVO Foundation*. Edinburgh: Heriot-Watt University.

[2] Centrepont September 2016 polling. <https://www.london.gov.uk/about-us/london-assembly/london-assembly-publications/hidden-homelessness-london>

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Target beneficiaries

We are seeking proposals from voluntary sector organisations providing targeted support and housing solutions to those young people aged 18-30 who are experiencing homelessness, or are at high risk of becoming homeless.

A young person's chances of experiencing homelessness may be impacted by a broad range of interconnected factors, including welfare benefit reform, the housing crisis, rising unemployment and family conflict and breakdown.

Target beneficiaries might include:

- Young people experiencing homelessness
- Young people leaving care
- Young people leaving the justice system
- Young people fleeing violence or trauma
- Young refugees and asylum seekers
- LGBTQ young people

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Applications of interest

Projects of interest include:

- Help to rent schemes
- Homelessness prevention services
- Support for young women to access safe accommodation
- Wraparound services, including:
 - Support to get young people into employment, education and training
 - Support to help young people live independently
 - Support to help young people manage their mental health

We are particularly keen to support applicants which:

- Co-create services with young people, involving them in service design and delivery
- Adopt an asset-based approach to supporting young people experiencing homelessness
- Are looking to expand or improve their services, and reach new beneficiaries
- Demonstrate a holistic model of support
- Take a collaborative approach, working in partnership with one or more other organisations

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We want to understand the impact of the projects we support and contribute to furthering the sector's understanding of this issue.

Applications should clearly set out the project's target outcomes and show how these will be monitored and evaluated. We know this can be challenging, so will offer delivery organisations support to get their evaluation framework right. We also have funding in place to undertake an external evaluation across all funded programmes.

All funded projects need to be working towards one or more of the following outcomes:

Young people experiencing or at high risk of homelessness

- are able to access good quality, sustainable accommodation
- are able to access education, employment or training
- are better able to recognise their talents and skills to turn their lives around
- have improved skills and access to information needed to maintain a tenancy

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Funding available

There is £250,000 of funding available through this programme. We welcome applications for grants between £10,000 and £70,000 for up to a period of two years.

We particularly encourage applications from smaller organisations with a turnover of less than £1m.

Successful organisations will also have the opportunity to apply for additional support through the Foundation's Capacity Building Fund.

Full cost recovery

We encourage full cost recovery models and will fund core costs as part of the project delivery.

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Eligibility for funding

We welcome applications from registered charities. We will also support community interest companies, providing the funding is restricted and used in its entirety for charitable delivery.

We only support work which is being delivered within the following areas: Greater London, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Hertfordshire, Oxfordshire, Surrey, Kent, Hampshire, West Sussex, Warwickshire and the West Midlands. If you are a national organisation, please only apply for funding to cover delivery within one or more of these areas. We do not fund any work outside of the UK.

We will only fund projects that directly support young people aged 18-30 who are experiencing homelessness or are at high risk of becoming homeless.

What we don't fund

We don't fund Local Authorities, although we expect that many of our charitable partners will be working in close partnership with their local council.

We are not able to provide grants to individuals.

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We ask all applicants to submit their application online via our website. Applicants are required to submit supporting documents, including: a project budget and up to date management accounts, via email to info@berkeleyfoundation.org.uk.

Applications will not be assessed until all supporting documents are received.

We strongly encourage all applicants to carefully read the eligibility criteria and refer to our step-by-step guidance notes before applying.

To apply, please use the application form on our website:
<http://www.berkeleyfoundation.org.uk/grants/apply-for-funding>

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Combatting Youth Homelessness will be open for applications from 1 June 2018 until midnight on 30 June 2018.

Applications will be reviewed and shortlisted by the Foundation team and we will aim to notify and meet with shortlisted applicants during August and September 2018.

Funding decisions will be made by our Finance, Audit and Risk Committee during October 2018 and we will inform all applicants of their outcomes by the beginning of November. Please note that we cannot fund retrospectively.

Successful applicants will be required to submit a report every six months and progress calls/meetings will be scheduled quarterly.

Questions? Contact Clare Maddison, Grants Programme Manager:
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