

Creating strong local communities by connecting those who want to help with those seeking help

About Hertfordshire Community Foundation

Hertfordshire Community Foundation is an independent charity which encourages and supports local philanthropy. We provide advice and giving options to our donors which we transform into funding and support for small charities, voluntary groups and individuals in Hertfordshire. Collectively our fundholders help to tackle a broad range of social need. Each year our grant making reaches more than 45,000 local people and for many, HCF's support provides a lifeline.

Welcome



If you have been given this brochure by your professional adviser, a friend, or you have requested information from Hertfordshire Community Foundation (HCF) directly, then it's likely that you will already be thinking about charitable giving in Hertfordshire. You have probably been thinking for a while about how you can make a positive difference to local people's lives who are less fortunate but you may be unsure where to start. At HCF our job is to make sure you enjoy all the positives of giving without any of the administrative burden. Charitable giving should be a fulfilling and uplifting experience. For more than 30 years we have been advising individuals, families and organisations in the county and we are sure we can help you achieve your charitable aims.

It is easy to assume that Hertfordshire is a universally affluent county, but pockets of deprivation exist in every borough. Without exception, all identified social issues have been exacerbated by the ongoing impact of Covid-19 and the cost-of-living crisis and so it has never been a better time to consider supporting your local community by becoming an HCF fundholder.

Please read on to find out more about establishing a named fund and becoming a fund-holder with us

Amanda Jansen, Head of Philanthropy

Making giving rewarding

Making a difference to your local community through charitable giving should be an enjoyable and rewarding experience for everyone involved.

But setting up and managing your own private family or business trust can take a lot of time, expense and require specialist expertise. There is much to consider ensuring your money will be used effectively, with credible organisations within your community.

If you are thinking about charitable giving, it is likely you have already asked yourself at least one of the following questions:

- Should I set up a private trust or are there other alternatives?
- Is there an easier way to achieve my charitable aims?
- Where do I go to get the right advice?
- If I set up my own private trust, how will I manage the giving process to local charities?
- How can I be sure the applicants are who they say they are?
- How can I be sure they will spend my donation responsibly?

These are common questions but when the onus is on you to ensure your money reaches the right causes it can sometimes start to feel like a burden, rather than the fulfilling experience it deserves to be. HCF can take that burden away from you.



Hertfordshire Domestic Abuse Helpline is confidential, anonymous and free for anyone in Hertfordshire affected by domestic abuse.

With support from HCF they funded the training of additional volunteers to expand their operating hours.





What is a named fund?

A named fund is a ring-fenced charitable fund held by HCF on your behalf. Named funds are a great way to make a long-term investment in the community.

Many individuals, families and businesses choose to set up a named fund to become directly involved in community philanthropy without the cost and administration of setting up a new charitable trust.

Named funds are created for a variety of reasons: in memory of a loved one, to campaign for a cause close to your heart, to demonstrate impactful corporate social responsibility (CSR), to develop your environmental, social or governance (ESG) profile, to engage your wider family and children in philanthropy or simply because you want to help. Whatever the reason, a named fund is often the most effective way of carrying out great charitable intentions.

The fund can be named after you, a family member, a friend, a company or anything that is personal to you.

We are experienced at working with professional advisors and their clients, philanthropic individuals or groups, bereaved friends and families, charitable trusts and corporate organisations looking for an effective CSR strategy.



As the founder of a successful local business, I wanted to find a way of identifying well-run, local, people-based charities in need of funding. HCF meets my needs like a hand in a glove. They have a committee that vets each application for funds in advance, so that I can have confidence that the money is being well-spent. And, they are extremely easy to deal with.

John Fearon, HCF Fund holder



Why fund-holders choose HCF



You receive expert support from HCF's team



We help you establish meaningful relationships with the causes that matter most to you



Our comprehensive reporting ensures you know where your money has been spent and how it has made a difference



Our meticulous due diligence means you can rest assured your donations are going to credible, fully vetted charitable organisations



We help you reach grassroot organisations you never knew existed



As the largest nonstatutory funder in Hertfordshire, you will benefit from over 30 years experience in grant making and local giving



How to set up your fund

Setting up your own charitable fund doesn't need to be complicated. HCF can take care of the administration and obligations for you so giving to your community is always enjoyable and never becomes a hassle.

We start by working with you to understand what you'd like to achieve with your fund. You may have a clear idea of the cause you would like to focus on already (e.g. creating opportunities for young people).

If you haven't got any set ideas yet, that's fine too. We can make recommendations based on the information you share with us, using our expert knowledge of local charitable organisations to identify the areas of greatest local need.

Once you have chosen your areas of interest, HCF will draw up a fund agreement which clarifies the purpose of your fund.

Herts Asian Women Association's Saheli Tiffin Club attracts 40 elderly Asian women to their weekly meetings. Attendees speak limited to no English and are at risk of being isolated.



The club has used funding from HCF to provide activities and English lessons to help the women to make friends and become part of a community.

You can then decide on the grants you wish to make. Many of our fund-holders like to involve family members in this part of the grant making process. And one of the benefits of having a named fund with HCF is that it can be passed on to the next generation in the future.

What type of fund is right for me?

At Hertfordshire Community Foundation we offer two types of funds:

	Endowment funds	Pass-through funds
Description	This is a fund that is invested to produce an annual income which is distributed as grants each year. This is ideal for people who want to give in perpetuity and perhaps leave a legacy of giving with the next generation of their own family.	This can be set up as a one-off fund or as an on-going fund that is topped up regularly. This is ideal if a long-term endowment is unsuitable as it enables fund-holders to put their money to work straight away. A pass-through fund is distributed in full over a set period of time.
Criteria	 £25,000 minimum gift. (or £20,000 if gift aid can be claimed) is required to set up a named, donor-advised fund with bespoke grantmaking. This can be built up over several years or made in one instalment. 	• £10,000 minimum gift (or £8,000 if gift aid can be claimed).
Fee	 No set up contribution. An annual management fee of 2% of the fund value.* 	• 10% of the value of the pass- through fund.*

^{*} In the event that a fundholder wishes to establish a major fund, HCF recognises that economies of scale may arise. As a result fees may be negotiated on a case by case basis, dependent on the complexity of the fund and the wishes of the donor.



Meet some of our fund-holders

HCF supports more than 100 local funds which collectively help to address a broad range of social need in the county. Here are just a few of the funds we are proud to manage:

Burton Charitable Trust

Sally Burton and her husband Mark created a named family fund in 2015 to help younger and older people in their local area.

"Our priority was to help smaller organisations, with big ambitions to make an impact for individuals and the community, where every penny you give makes a huge difference. We were impressed by HCF's deep understanding and knowledge of the sector. They have given us expert help and advice, aligned to our giving wishes and optimised the impact that we are able to make."

Harpenden Building Society Charitable Trust

Richard Steed is the Marketing Manager for Harpenden Building Society. Their fund was set up in 2009 to support children, health and local community projects.

"Our strong local heritage has instilled in us a genuine consideration for the local communities we serve. With HCF's help we can support projects and charities in various locations, with unique objectives and for a wide range of different people. The centralised administration frees up our time for decision making for the benefit of our communities. We would wholeheartedly recommend others get involved with HCF, they do a brilliant job."

The Quercus Fund

The Quercus Fund was started by three families. Keen to support organisations working with young people in the Watford area, they wanted to give back and teach the next generation about the value of philanthropy.

"Our children are very lucky with the background and support they have. That's not the case for so many in Hertfordshire. We want our own children to appreciate that and develop a sense of community responsibility. With the children being engaged in the process, we look forward to a time when they will eventually take on full responsibility for the fund and pass on the same education and experience to future generations."

The Graham Rowlandson Fund

In 2006 the Graham Rowlandson Foundation began looking for ways to better organise its charitable giving. With a business based in Hertfordshire and owners who had lived in Hertfordshire all their lives there was a definite desire to increase their giving and explore a much wider network of beneficiaries.

"We feel that we were extraordinarily blessed to have found HCF to help us in our grant making. They have enabled the trustees to form very rewarding relationships with a significant number of charities across the county. A focus of the trustees has always been a desire to gain an understanding of the difference the grant has made to the charity, in simple terms to gauge a return on the grant. This aim has been very much supported by the HCF team."

HCF makes giving easy

As an experienced grant-giving organisation with specialist knowledge of the needs of the county, HCF offers unique support and value to your giving experience that other fund management options cannot.

All your admin and obligations taken care of

HCF takes care of any onerous administrative tasks and legal obligations, so you never need to feel burdened. We will vet all applications to ensure your funds make a real difference.

Your fund tailored to you

Having your fund managed by HCF does not mean less control over how your donations are distributed. We work with you to help you choose causes you feel would benefit most from your donations.

Get to know your beneficiaries

If you would like to be more involved with the causes you support we can help make that happen. We support our fund-holders to build positive relationships with their chosen causes.

Know you're making a difference

Giving shouldn't feel like a one-way transaction. Part of the joy of giving is in understanding how your actions have helped others. That's why HCF will make sure you receive regular updates on the impact of your giving.

Contact

If you would like to find out more about how HCF can support your charitable giving or you have any questions, we would be delighted to hear from you.

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