

## Your Gift to Age UK Hammersmith & Fulham

A gift in your will could be a lifeline, ensuring older people always have someone to turn to.

#### A guide to leaving a gift in your will



## Making every day a little brighter for older people in Hammersmith & Fulham

Reducing loneliness and isolation, and improving health and wellbeing, are Age UK Hammersmith & Fulham's guiding principles for all older people.

We offer a range of preventative services to ensure that later years are fulfilling and enjoyable, and that older people can maintain connections within their communities.

We are an independent local charity that has been working with older people since 1982. All the funds we raise are spent in Hammersmith & Fulham. We depend on the financial support from individuals like you, from charitable organisations and from local businesses in order to deliver our vital work.

Our work is only possible because of the kind support from people like you. Every single gift is important to us and goes a long way to help someone who needs us. "We got myself and Nan, who is a hundred, set up for a meal delivery for four days a week - which was four days that I didn't have to worry if we could eat or not. At a time when I had no socialising with the outside world, it's the small things also which helped me through the day, such as calls from Age UK Hammersmith & Fulham to check we were all OK, or a smile with a delivery - it cannot be overstated how these things helped so much."

Thank you for considering leaving a gift in your will.



# Make a lasting difference in your local community

By choosing to leave a gift in your will to Age UK Hammersmith & Fulham, your kindness will help older people living in the borough find comfort, support and friendship.

We are proud that Age UK Hammersmith & Fulham is seen to be a dependable and trustworthy organisation in the borough. We are committed to working with outside organisations to ensure that we reach those older residents most in need.

Our 20 members of staff (mostly part-time) and on average 230 volunteers help more than 1,400 older people each year.

"The difference you are making to older people in need is incalculable. I could not be more pleasantly and happily surprised by your response and wanted to say a massive thank you on behalf of all the residents."

A Housing Officer whose residents we helped during the Covid-19 pandemic.

In 2020, despite our Community Centre being closed for almost eight months, we were able to radically adapt our services to ensure that we still met the urgent needs of older residents.

As early as March, we put in place an Isolation Buddy Service, offering personal grocery shopping and assistance with prescriptions, in addition to telephone befriending for those unable to leave their home. We created a meal delivery service with more than 6,500 fresh meals delivered at home. We also worked hard to help our clients and alleviate their isolation.



# Your gift can help us be there for future generations

We understand that you want to take care of your loved ones first. After you have taken care of your family and friends, a gift in your will to Age UK Hammersmith & Fulham could make a lasting difference to older people who need our help.

Even a small percentage of what is left can make a real difference to the people who need us. With an aging population, we know demand for our support is only going to increase.

We are hugely indebted to **Nina**, **Violet, Malcolm, Edith, Pamela, Rolph** and others, who chose to make a difference to the lives of our older residents and left a gift in their wills to Age UK Hammersmith & Fulham. Without them, we would not have been able to grow our services over the years and the number of older people we help in the borough more than doubled in the last four years.

All gifts, whatever their size, make a real difference. Thank you.

"The relief to know that you are supporting Mum is immense. We are all very relieved and grateful for the local support that she is getting. I know that she has felt very isolated and lonely, so has appreciated the help. We can't thank Age UK Hammersmith & Fulham enough for the swift response you gave, from feeling very worried about her situation on Friday, when things were very dire, to hearing that she is in a much better frame of mind by Monday is amazing."



## **Useful** information



Leaving a gift in your will can also have positive tax implications. It is important that you speak to a qualified professional, such as a solicitor, when making or amending your will.

We hope that the following helps answer some of the questions that you might have.

#### I need to make a will. How do I get started?

You can download from our website a will planner, which can help you set out your wishes. A solicitor of your choice will be able to advise you on the required wording to carry these out.

#### How can I take care of my family and leave a gift in my will to Age **UK Hammersmith & Fulham?**

After setting out your wishes to take care of family and friends, all you need, in order to leave a gift to the charity, is our name Age UK Hammersmith & Fulham, our charity number 289124 and our address 105 Greyhound Road, London W6 8NJ.

#### I already have a will. How can I make a change in order to leave a gift to Age UK Hammersmith & Fulham?

A qualified professional such as a solicitor may be able to make the necessary change by means of an amendment (known as a codicil) to your will, unless the change is more complex, calling for a new will.

## **Useful information**



There are three main types of gifts:

- residuary a percentage of your estate, once specified gifts have been made to friends and family, and taxes and debts have been paid
- pecuniary a fixed sum of money
- **specific** a specified item, such as a personal possession, land, building, or stocks and shares.

Leaving a gift to charity can reduce the amount your estate pays in inheritance tax. Your solicitor will be able to advise you.

#### How can I help Age UK Hammersmith & Fulham make a difference in the future?

Gifts left to us are vital to our work. They can be directed toward a specific purpose but contributions marked for general charitable purposes of Age UK Hammersmith & Fulham are preferred as they will allow the charity to use your legacy where it is most needed at that particular time.

### Thank you for considering leaving a gift in your will.

## The work we do transforms the lives of older people in Hammersmith & Fulham

Julie and Marguerite who benefited from our Active Age and In-Touch activities

"The people are so nice, they make us feel so welcome and we meet new people – it's nice to have a laugh and make new friends."

"I've got polio all down my right side. After the class I can walk much better and the use of my right hand improves greatly. The class helps me very much."

Elizabeth on our Digital Inclusion service

"I am absolutely thrilled to have received a tablet, it has helped me so much. I am currently learning how I can write a letter. I play bridge online and would like to learn other things that it can do, like watching TV and listening to music."

#### Stephen on our Befriending service

"The Befriending service has made a huge amount of difference to my life. I feel less isolated and my worries about getting through each day are fewer."

Pamela who benefited from our Shopping service

"I wouldn't have known what to do without Age UK Hammersmith & Fulham after I had my stroke. I couldn't cook, I couldn't do much and the support I received both on the phone and delivering a meal I could simply reheat was fantastic. I couldn't have existed without it."





## Thank you for considering leaving a gift in your will

We are here to help. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

**Age UK Hammersmith & Fulham** 105 Greyhound Road, London, W6 8NJ

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Registered charity number 289124. Company number 01685692.