

Golden Grant Makers Information Pack

Summary

Islington Giving is committed to supporting residents as part of its work to tackle poverty, inequality and isolation in Islington.

Islington Giving is looking for 8 local older residents (we are likely to prioritise people over 65 but any resident over the age of 55 can apply) to come together **to make decisions about how a minimum of £110,000** of Islington Giving's grants budget can be spent to **support local groups to provide more opportunities for older people** to come together, have fun, build connections and tackle isolation.

Islington Giving

Islington is a borough of stark contrasts – a place where great wealth sits alongside hidden poverty. Islington Giving was set up in 2010 to address these issues and create opportunities for people in Islington. It is a partnership that brings together residents, businesses, community organisations and funders to make a real difference in the Borough.

Islington Giving currently supports over 40 local projects across 3 core themes:

- Investing in Young People
- Supporting Families
- Reaching Isolated People.

All our work aims to open up opportunities for people to enjoy life and socialise, to build skills and possibilities and to make connections with each other and services.

Why resident grant making panels?

In recent years, we have asked groups of residents to help us make decisions about how we spend our money. Residents know what makes a good service. Your life-experiences complement the expertise of our programme team, so help us make better decisions.

Building on the success of Islington Giving's Young Grant Makers and Supporting Families Panels, Islington Giving is now asking local older people to join us in giving away £110,000 to local groups.

Who can be involved?

Islington Giving wants to recruit 8 local older residents to shape the programme and decide on how to best spend the grants budget.

No previous experience is necessary - we don't expect you to have done anything like this before. We want to meet residents who have ideas about what they would like to see and participate in and who want to get involved.

We are looking for people who:

- live in Islington
- are over 55 (with priority likely given to those who are over 65)
- have a desire / enthusiasm to effect change in their local community
- have some experience of the issues being addressed i.e. social or financial isolation, mental and/or physical ill-health, lacking access to quality services and activities at times and places that suit them.
- can commit to participating in the whole programme
- are interested in how funding decisions are made and willing to engage in detailed discussions
- are willing to work as part of a team to share ideas and reach a common goal.

Panel members will be selected on the above criteria. Consideration will also be given to ensuring there are a range of people with different skills and experiences on the Panel and to bringing voices to the Panel who are not usually heard.

What would I be committing to?

- You will need to be available to attend up to eight meetings between October 2022 and January 2023, with some additional time for reading between some meetings.
- Together, the Panel will write a grant call, which tells charities what you are interested in funding.
- Organisations will then apply and the Panel will read the applications and shortlist groups you would like to meet.
- You will then help interview applicants before making decisions of which grants you want to make.

You will be fully supported by the Islington Giving programme team who will help everyone through the process.

All Panel meetings will take place at Islington Giving's office - 13 Elliott's Place, London N1 8HX. Breaks and refreshments will be provided.

Will I be paid?

You will be reimbursed for any money spent on enabling you to take part on the Panels, for example travel expenses for you to attend meetings.

You will also receive payment at the London Living Wage (£11.05 an hour) for:

- attending up to eight Panel meetings
- 6 hours for reading and reviewing applications

Amounting to a total of 33 hours @ £11.05 an hour - £365 for your involvement.

Please note that this is the *maximum* amount you will be paid for your involvement based on attending all meetings. It also includes six additional hours allocated for reading and reviewing applications. The total amount paid may therefore be lower.

If you need additional support around reading, please let us know. We can offer support or find alternative ways for people to engage with the content. We encourage people with disabilities to apply and/or to talk to us beforehand.

Independent professional benefits advice will be offered to anyone concerned about the impact of payment on their benefits as will the option to receive payment in a different way, if an hourly wage proves problematic.

If you are interested, or know anyone who might be interested, you or they can contact me on patrick.jones@cripplegate.org.uk or 0207 288 6948 to find out more.

How do I put myself forward?

If you are interested in being a Panel member:

1. **Complete the expression of interest form by 16 September 2022** and send or email it to Patrick Jones – 13 Elliott's Place, London N1 8HX - patrick.jones@cripplegate.org.uk. If completing the form might be difficult, please feel free to contact Anne Shewring or Patrick Jones on 020 7288 6940 to discuss your interest.
2. The next step would be for us to have a phone conversation with you about your application – to find out a little bit more about you and answer any questions. This will give you and us the chance to see whether the programme is right for you.
3. If we have more applicants than our 8 places we will use the information gleaned from your form and phone conversation against the criteria outlined above to select the Panel.

If there are more people than places, with your permission, we will keep your contact details for future Panels.

Below is a timetable for the programme. We have yet to confirm exact meeting dates.

What?	Time commitment	Description	When
1 st Panel Meeting	3 hours	Understanding context and shaping the programme	Week of 3 October 2022
2 nd Panel meeting	3 hours	Finalising the open call	Week of 10 October 2022
3 rd Panel meeting	3 hours	Training – how to assess applications against criteria / reading accounts / budgets	Week of 21 November 2022
Read applications	Depends on number of applicants	Panel members will have 14 days to read submitted applications	21 Nov – 5 Dec 2022
4 th Panel meeting	3-6 hours depending on whether to have one full day or two half day meetings	Reviewing applications and assess fit against criteria and priorities. Positives and negatives of each application and begin shortlisting process	Week of 5 December 2022
<i>5th Panel meeting</i>	<i>3 hours</i>	<i>Additional panel meeting if needed to continue shortlisting applicants to interview / decide on interview questions</i>	<i>Week of 12 December 2022</i>
6 th Panel meeting	3 hours	Interview shortlisted applicants	Week of 9 January 2023
7 th Panel meeting	3 hours	Interview shortlisted applicants	Week of 16 January 2023
8 th Panel meeting	3 hours	Decision making	Week of 23 January 2023