



Corporate Giving

Working with businesses across Kent and Medway to make a real and demonstrable difference to your local communities



About Kent Community Foundation

Kent Community Foundation connects individuals, families, businesses and trusts and foundations with local causes that make a genuine difference in their community. Part of a national network of 46 Community Foundations, we are committed to improving the lives of local people and communities across Kent and Medway.

Established in May 2001, KCF has distributed over £34 million in grants and now provides financial support to hundreds of charities and deserving causes throughout the county each year – particularly small, local charities, where a modest sum of money can make a significant impact.

Kent is a wonderful place in which to live and work but it is also a county of extremes. Amongst the affluence there are many pockets of significant deprivation in neighbouring communities, many of which are hidden by statistical averages, making them harder to reach and more likely to remain in poverty.

It is very important for people to feel confident in their giving which is why KCF carries out a robust due diligence process before awarding grants to any local charity or community group giving you the confidence to support the smaller organisations in the county that often operate under the radar but have a significant impact on the people they help. We pride ourselves on our local knowledge, networks and wide ranging experience of community grant-making.

About Corporate Giving

A growing number of Kent-based businesses are looking to support their local communities by enhancing their current corporate social responsibility programme or by establishing a new strategy.

Many companies do not have the resource or time to handle charitable requests – Kent Community Foundation will provide the support and advice you need to create a simple, flexible and tangible way of managing your local charitable giving.

We have options to suit every type and size of business:

- Your own named annual fund
- Endowment fund
- Membership of a pooled corporate giving fund
- Donation to our themed funds

Named Annual Fund

By setting up a named annual flow-through fund with Kent Community Foundation, your business maintains control of where your donation goes, without the administrative burdens associated with setting up and managing your own charitable trust.

Fund-holders can be involved as little or as much as they wish in the grant-making process and may wish to involve staff in the decision-making. KCF can handle all requests for donations so your business will not have to reject any requests again. If an application for funding does not suit your criteria, we will put it forward for our other 80 funds giving applicants a high chance of success.

Benefits

1. Make an immediate impact by putting the money towards grant-making straight away
2. Your own fund name and logo, promoted by KCF through our website and social media and for you to display on your marketing material
3. Set your own criteria for your fund and involve staff ideas
4. Exclusive invitations to fundholder-only events
5. PR support and press releases managed by KCF
6. Staff volunteering opportunities
7. Quarterly fund statement
8. Annual impact report showing the charities supported through your fund and the difference your donation has made

The minimum donation required for a named flow-through fund is £25,000. Your donation is distributed in full over a set period of time. You can make a one-off donation or top-up the fund annually. KCF will take a contribution of 10% towards essential resources.

Endowment Fund

For businesses who want to provide a lasting legacy for their local community, an endowment fund is invested to produce an annual income, which is distributed as grants each year. These funds are usually set-up by family-owned businesses.

Benefits

1. Make a lasting legacy by investing money to produce an annual income which is then distributed as grants
2. Your own fund name and logo, promoted by KCF through our website and social media and for you to display on your marketing material
3. Set your own criteria for your fund and involve staff ideas
4. Exclusive invitations to fundholder-only events
5. PR support and press releases managed by KCF
6. Staff volunteering opportunities
7. Quarterly fund statement
8. Annual impact report showing the charities supported through the fund

The minimum donation required for an endowment fund is £100,000. A set-up contribution of 2.5% of the original donation is made to KCF, and this is capped at £5,000. We work on a total returns policy of 5% which means a guarantee that we will distribute 3.5% of the revenue from the overall endowment to your chosen cause or theme. KCF's contribution is 1.5% per annum. There are no further additional costs if you decide to top up your endowment in future years.

Pooled Corporate Giving Fund

Our pooled Corporate Giving Funds (currently running in Ashford and Medway) brings together businesses, entrepreneurs and individuals committed to supporting their local community.

These pooled funds connect socially responsible local businesses with innovative projects making a real difference to help those most in need. This collective and proactive approach is so powerful in bringing about tangible changes in the community and maximising the potential impact of each member's contribution.

Each member makes an annual donation of £1,000 - £2,500 which is pooled to create a collective fund. Each year, members come together at a giving circle, organised and hosted by KCF to decide which local causes to support. This is a great networking opportunity for like-minded local businesses where members will hear directly from the charities applying for funding on how a grant will benefit their community. You will hear about the most pressing issues facing the local community and will have the opportunity to discuss long-term needs and solutions.

Kent Community Foundation will retain 10% of donations to manage the fund including the processing of all donations, applications from charities and grant-making.

Benefits

1. Gain more from your donation by pooling together with other businesses to distribute larger grants
2. Network with like-minded individuals to share ideas on community giving
3. Promote your community giving using our bespoke logos
4. Attend an annual giving circle to hear from short-listed applicants on where the money will be used
5. Vote with other members on which grants are given out and to which charities
6. Invite staff members to attend the giving circle to make community giving a more tangible business approach
7. Gain access to charities with possible volunteering options available for staff or access to charity visits.
8. Impact reports will be sent to members showing the impact of donations to charities – this could be shared across your business and on social media

Themed Donation – raise money for a specific need

For some businesses, it is important to have their employees involved in charitable giving. This can boost employee morale, increase employee engagement and improve a company's reputation.

However, sometimes businesses find it difficult to choose which charity to support and may not be aware of all of the local charities within their community.

By giving a one-off or regular donation to our themed funds you can be confident that the money is going to where it is needed most. This donation could be raised from staff fundraising or through a CSR programme of events, for example. You could specify which theme you wish to support or support them all!

Our four themed funds are:



Children,
Young People
and Families



Elderly and
Isolated



Vulnerable
Adults



Employability,
Skills and
Enterprise

Benefits

1. Donations can be of any amount at any time
2. You can be confident that we will distribute the pooled donations to where the need is greatest
3. Grants will be allocated at a quarterly grants committee from the four themed funds on your behalf
4. An impact report will be sent to donors to show which organisations have benefited
5. All grants allocated to projects will be reaching disadvantaged, isolated or vulnerable people and making a huge difference

Tax Efficient Giving

A summary of key information for companies is below. We recommend that you get advice from your lawyer, accountant or another professional before making any gift. You can also get advice and information about making gifts to charity from HM Revenue and Customs.

Corporation Tax

If you are a limited company, a foreign company with a UK branch or office or a club, co-operative or other unincorporated association, eg a community group or sports club you must pay Corporation Tax on profits from doing business. Donations made by local businesses **may be offset** against Corporation Tax by deducting the value of your donations from the total business profits before paying tax.

Gifts of land, buildings or shares

Your company could benefit from Corporation Tax relief if it gives land, property or qualifying shares to a charity, or sells them to a charity at less than their market value.

Payroll giving

An unlimited amount can be contributed to charity via your employees' payroll giving. It costs your employees less to give because their donation is given to charity from their gross salary before any tax is deducted – so they do not pay tax on the gift.

Corporate Funds Managed by KCF

The Gatwick
Foundation Fund



The Vanquis Social
Impact Fund
(Kent and Medway)

KentReliance
Provident Society Community Fund

Get in touch

If you would like to discuss how Kent Community Foundation can help your company or business to support your local community, please contact our Development Team on 01303 817 505 or email development@kentcf.org.uk



“ I am so proud that the Port of Dover continues to provide benefit to our local community through the support of these exceptional projects. I would like to thank the Kent Community Foundation for administering the Port of Dover Community Fund on behalf of the Port and all of this year’s recipients for their unfaltering hard work and dedication. ”

Port of Dover, Chief Executive



For further information:

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