

About Corporate Giving

No matter what size of company you are or how much you wish to donate, you have the opportunity to make a real difference.

A growing number of Kent-based businesses are looking to establish a corporate charitable giving programme or enhance an existing corporate responsibility strategy. Kent Community Foundation can offer a simple, flexible and tangible way of making a difference to your local community. We work with a wide range of businesses both large and small as well as local authorities, family offices and trusts and foundations.

By investing in your local community, you can reach new audiences, enhance business relationships and build loyalty with your employees and stakeholders by supporting causes that matter to them. Kent Community Foundation knows where these organisations are and we know how to access them. In addition, you can see the impact of your donation first hand.

Staff involvement

We involve your staff – staff representatives can be on the decision panel for grant-making and can get involved in deciding where money will go. We can provide guidance and training for staff on this.

"We believe passionately in our town and its future – that's why we continue to actively invest in it. We're extremely grateful to the independent panel and Kent Community Foundation who've been working so hard to ensure the Port of Dover Community Fund is a success. More and more organisations are recognising how the Port of Dover Community Fund can help them make a genuine difference to the lives of Doverians."

Chief Executive, Port of Dover



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CORPORATE GIVING

Make a real difference in your local community



About Kent Community Foundation

Kent Community Foundation (KCF) awards grants to charities and individuals in Kent and Medway, with the aim of building strong and vibrant communities throughout the county.

Part of a national network of 46 Community Foundations, we are committed to improving the lives of local people and communities, particularly the most vulnerable, isolated and disadvantaged. We connect generous individuals, families and companies with local causes that make a genuine difference in the community.

KCF's robust grant-making expertise and extensive knowledge of local charities and community projects ensures an effective and professional service, where a modest sum of money can make a significant difference.

It's really important to people to feel confident in their giving especially when there is so much controversy about the sector and we can give you that confidence. KCF has an experienced outreach and grants team who ensure highly efficient grant processes and due diligence. We pride ourselves on our local knowledge, networks and wide ranging experience of community grant-making.

"I was stunned by the concept of being able to put money into a fund at our convenience, with a name of our choice, that we could add to, and identify projects that needed our financial support... Until you get close, it's difficult to appreciate how fantastic this system is. You put the money in and make donations to causes as and when they crop up and when they happen to suit what you believe in. There is zero pressure. It's so simple and easy. It's one of the best things I've ever done in my life."

Michael Head,
Chairman Crown Imperial



Crown is a 70-year old kitchens and bedroom business based in Herne Bay. Michael is grateful for all the support youth clubs and other organisations offered him in his youth. Following his success, he wanted to give something back, and is a long-term fund-holder at KCF.

Four ways in which you can get involved:

1. Make a donation to our **Themed Programmes**, which can be a minimum of £1,000 per annum. These programmes allow us to ensure that the money is going to where the need is greatest in our county. Our four Themed Programmes are: Children, Young People and Families, Elderly and Isolated, Vulnerable Adults and Employability, Skills and Enterprise.
2. **Set up a Named Fund** where, for an annual donation of £25,000 or more, you get to set the criteria for your fund and make decisions about where the money goes.
3. **Donate your skills and experience.** We work hard to support the charitable sector and by creating a directory of pro-bono support, we can connect you with organisations who could utilise your skills.
4. If you are a **professional advisor** and your clients are looking for an alternative to setting up their own Trust and Foundation then a fund with Kent Community Foundation is an ideal way to do that. Referring your clients is a perfect way to support the Foundation and your local community.

Why work with your local Community Foundation?

- We enable you to invest in and support your local area; your customers, employees and neighbours
- We can align your giving to your company values
- We can involve members of staff in the decision-making process
- Our menu of options enables you to choose your preferred level of staff involvement, how much you want to give and a choice of giving now or forever
- We can facilitate volunteering opportunities for staff through local charities
- We take away any administrative burden by handling all requests for support and awards of funding on your behalf
- We can assist with company reporting
- As a charity, your gifts to us can be deducted from your total profits for tax purposes
- By giving through a community foundation we are able to help you measure the impact of your giving and help you reach your strategic goals

How does a corporate advised fund work?

- Your business makes a gift to us – this can be cash, shares, property or other assets
- We set up the fund using your business name
- Your business receives tax benefits in the year your gift is made, the business will claim a deduction for the charitable donation as if it were a trading expense
- You (or a team of employees) recommend uses for the fund – working with our professional grants team to support the causes and organisations you care about most
- We have an extensive network of local charities, community and voluntary groups in Kent and Medway so can help connect you to great causes wherever you are based
- We handle all administrative matters and issue grants to charities in the name of the fund on your behalf (or if you prefer, grants can be made anonymously)
- We provide end of year grant reports on the difference your fund has made

"Gatwick is proud to be partnering with the Community Foundations for Sussex, Surrey and Kent to launch the Gatwick Foundation Fund in support of important community and voluntary projects across the region. Each organisation has detailed knowledge and understanding of the community needs across their respective counties and this invaluable experience will help to ensure grants are focused where they can make the most difference."

Stewart Wingate,
CEO Gatwick Airport

**The Gatwick
Foundation Fund**

The Gatwick Foundation Fund was set up in partnership with Kent, Surrey and Sussex Community Foundations. The Fund oversees £300,000 worth of annual grants for worthy causes across the region. The funding is used to promote employment, training and skills, alongside support for families, the elderly and young people at a local level across the three counties.