

YOUNG H&F

YOUTH GRANTS PANEL

Learning report: Summer 2019

Our approach to involving young people from
Hammersmith & Fulham in grant-making

The context...

In Summer 2018 we gave out 12 small grants to Young H&F members. We used a panel of charity and youth sector professionals to help with the decision-making process, including reading application forms, scrutinising budgets, scoring, providing feedback and assessing how much should be awarded. We also invited a local young person to participate. After the panel, the young person told us that they found it difficult to contribute to the panel and did not feel comfortable voicing their opinions. We knew we had to rethink how we involved young people in grant-making so that their needs were met throughout... so in 2019 we did things a little differently.

For Summer 2019, we introduced a simplified video applications process.

The involvement of young people was a key theme throughout, with members encouraged to develop ideas alongside the young people they support.

**WE ASKED YOUNG H&F
MEMBERS TO SUBMIT A
2 MINUTE VIDEO
APPLICATION**

- A brief outline of your organisation and your role within it
- What will your project do?
- Who is your project for?
- What will your project achieve?
- What difference will your project make to young people in the borough?
- How will you run your project?
- When and where will you run it?
- A brief breakdown of what you would spend the money on
- How will you be sure that your project is inclusive of young people's diverse needs?
- How does it fit in with our priority themes: education, employability, youth justice, mental and physical health.

Why?

We wanted to reduce the time spent by members filling in application forms; rather we focused on hearing from the members and their young people.

We asked them to use their smart phones to create a 2-minute video outlining the what, why, who and when of their project idea.

We wanted to encourage creativity, as well as members' ability to fine tune their 'elevator pitch' for funding.



We wanted to demonstrate our commitment to developing trust-based funding – we already know our members, so we want to see their ideas come to life!

Importantly, we encouraged youth involvement in creating & editing the video, with the commitment to bring together an all-youth grants panel to make the final decisions.

THE YOUTH GRANTS PANEL

We recruited 8 local young people who wanted to be involved in decision making and learn about the charity sector
Two sessions were offered: a 'crash course' in charity and funding, and the second was the actual grants panel
We offered gift vouchers as a thank you for time, pizza, refreshments and opportunities for future involvement



#CHANGETHENARRATIVE

ARE YOU AGED 14-25?
DO YOU WANT TO GET HANDS ON EXPERIENCE IN THE
CHARITY SECTOR? (AND GET REWARDED FOR YOUR
TIME, OF COURSE...!)

Join the Young H&F Youth Grants Panel



IS THIS YOU?

- I live, work or go to school/college in the borough!
- I am happy sharing my opinions and ideas with others...
- I am free on 25th June and 2nd July 2019, between 4-7pm...

[CLICK HERE TO APPLY!](#)

HERE'S YOUR CHANCE TO INFLUENCE HOW MONEY IS SPENT ON YOUNG PEOPLE IN H&F...

Young H&F are giving out £15000 this summer to projects designed for children and young people. We want to put the decision-making in your hands.

We're bringing together a small group of young people with a passion to make H&F a better place! If you want to be part of our first EVER Young H&F Grants Panel, we want to hear from you.

This is the first of many opportunities to get involved with Young H&F. We're a small but mighty charity based in HammarSmith working to create opportunities for young people. If you REALLY want to know more, check out our Twitter...
[@young_hf](#)

In exchange for your ideas and time, we're offering to give vouchers to those who take part. We only have a limited number of spaces on the panel, which we'll offer on a first come, first served basis...

1. Let us know you're interested...by filling in the form
2. We'll get in touch to let you know more details.
3. Join us on 25th June between 4-7pm for a planning session (Location TBC)
4. Keep the 2nd July 4-7pm free for the grants panel! (Location TBC)
5. If you enjoy this, we'll have plenty more opportunities to get involved, so watch this space...

TRAINING INCLUDED:

What are some different types of charities?

How are they set up?

How do they get money?

What are some issues for

charitable organisations around funding? E.g. Ethical & practical

What kind of issues/'hot topics' are there for young people in the borough?

Young H&F and our priority themes

How funders make decisions on funding

GRANTS AWARDED

Organisation	Funded/ Rejected	Amount awarded	Name/ focus of project
H&F Volunteer Police Cadets	Funded	£1,000.00	H&F Police Cadets - Contribution towards activities
Funpact	Funded	£1,800.00	Funpact - core costs & facilitators for their projects
Baraka Community Association	Funded	£2,000.00	Baraka Boxing Project
Sheperd's Bush Families Project	Partially funded	£800.00	Southend Trip
Maths Team	Partially funded	£1,200.00	Maths Team Support Costs
The Brunswick Club	Partially funded	£420.00	Senior Summer Club
White City Theatre	Partially funded	£450.00	Development of a new play
Westside Basketball	Partially funded	£1,800.00	Basketball sessions for primary aged children
The VIP	Funded	£2,000.00	Expansion of work to include over 18s
Urban Flyers	Partially funded	£1,000.00	Summer project learning about drone technologies
White City Youth Club/Harrow Club	Partially funded	£400.00	Summer activities and trips
UPG/ Masbro	Fully funded	£1,540.00	Introduction to Youth Work
Originals Club	Partially funded	£500.00	Sessional costs
		£14,910.00	

Feedback

All 8 participants agree that they now have a better understanding of youth services in the borough.

75% strongly agreed that they had a better understanding of how grants are awarded, with the other 25% mostly agreeing with the statement.

'Thank you for giving the Youth Grants Panel the opportunity to speak and have a say on what we think our borough needs, as well as letting us share our thoughts and opinions on where the funding should go to each of the groups...I liked working as a team and working together to make a decision on the funding'

All 8 participants agreed that they felt their needs were taken into consideration in planning for the panel.

One young person has gone on to become a peer researcher for Young H&F.

'Make all of the applicants fully aware of the rules/requirements so that we can make once decision all together'

'It was very useful, however, it would have been helpful to talk more about grants themselves more specifically, rather than the charity sector in general.'

'Have more sessions or have longer time in the sessions. Maybe meet with [the applicants] who we saw in the videos and do a Q&A session with them.'

'Be more physically interactive rather than verbal, like maybe speaking with the applicants rather than watching them on video.'

' I would like there to be more sessions like this because they are really fun and it's good to meet new people!'

'Break down the grants panel into more sessions as there were a lot of charities to consider in one day.'

' I would like there to be more sessions like this so that we can discuss issues affecting young people in more depth.'

YOUNG PEOPLE'S IDEAS FOR NEXT TIME

What's next?

We will be releasing more opportunities for young people to be involved with grantmaking soon.

Join our network, collaborate with us on community youth programmes, actively participate and meet colleagues through events and roundtables, share specialist local insight and collaborate on new research. See www.yhff.org.uk for more information.

