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**Covid-19 Response Grants**

**May 2020**

Clinks, on behalf of the Ministry of Justice and HMPPS, invite applications from voluntary organisations for grants to support the sector’s work during the Covid-19 crisis. This £275,000\* funding is from the HMPPS Innovation Grants Programme. Clinks are managing this programme on behalf of MOJ/HMPPS, and all grant agreements will be held between Clinks and the funded organisation.

Grants are intended for organisations already providing, or have a track record of providing, services in the criminal justice system. This funding will assist delivery of support where needs are not being met by current services, in particular with relation to needs created by the Covid-19 crisis. Organisations do not need to be in receipt of an HMPPS grant or a contract to provide services but should already have an existing relationship with HMPPS services to feasibly deliver services in the current circumstances. Grants will not be given to fund pilot programmes or completely new initiatives, as introducing these is unfeasible in the current environment.

Applications will be accepted from Monday 18th May 2020, and will be considered from Monday 25th May. The fund is intended to be open for six months dependent on funds remaining, and organisations must spend all funding by November 30th 2020. All eligible grant applications will be scored anonymously by a panel of Clinks, HMPPS and a philanthropic funder. Clinks will contribute our intelligence of the needs of the sector to ensure it reaches parts of the sector that need it most. We aim to spread the money across regions, organisation size and service type and to include organisations that support people with protected characteristics.

If you have any queries or would like support with your application, you can contact Emily Giles at covid19@clinks.org or on 02081 442551. We are expecting a high level of interest and enquiries, but if you are unable to get through we will get back to you as soon as possible.

**Eligibility criteria**

* This funding is for voluntary and community organisations operating in England and Wales supporting people in prison, leaving prison or under licence in the community or serving a community sentence in the context of Covid-19.
* ‘Voluntary and community organisations’ means any registered charity or incorporated social enterprise.
* Services funded should not be those expected to be provided by Community Rehabilitation Companies, but can complement them or provide support in accessing their services if this is limited by the Covid-19 crisis.
* Services should be within the scope of HMPPS’s work (i.e. for adults or young offenders in custody,
* Organisations must not be in receipt of funding from any other source for the same activities as this funding will support. (I.e. any other government Covid-19 related relief, grant, intervention or other measure which results in the VCSE recipient receiving more than one benefit/relief for the same underlying cash-flow issue).
* Organisations must have an annual income not exceeding £500,000.
* Organisations should have an up to date listing on Clinks’ Directory of Offender Services for the activities supported under this programme.
* Organisations must agree to assess the benefit of the grant to their beneficiaries and submit a short report at the end of the programme.
* Organisations must spend all monies by 30 November 2020.

**Related documents:**

Covid-19 Response Grant: Application Form

Covid-19 Response Grant: Template Grant Agreement

Covid-19 Response Grant: Frequently Asked Questions

***\*HMPPS have provided £300k for this grants programme. Clinks is able to retain up to £25k to administer the programme from that total. We are hoping not to have to do that and if successful we will grant the full £300k to the sector.***