

The Older Persons' Fund 2017

Round 5 Criteria

Timeline:	Closing Date for applications:	Thursday 23rd March 2017
	Grants will be made by:	End of June 2017
	Work should begin	July 2017
	Project Plan due:	28 th July 2017
	1st Networking Event:	Wednesday 6th September 2017
	Progress Report due:	1 st December 2017
	Final Outcome Report due:	1 st June 2018
	2nd Learning and Networking Event	2018 (TBC)

Sub -categories:

- A. Inclusion of older people in active citizenship roles
- B. Supporting older peoples' voices at local & national level

About: The Community Foundation for Ireland is a grant making and donor services charity. The Community Foundation makes grants to not-for-profit and voluntary groups working in communities throughout the Republic of Ireland. Grants are usually for a particular action with an identifiable outcome. On-going, core or capital costs will not be considered.

PLEASE NOTE: We do not fund general appeals. Ensure you meet the criteria below before applying

INCLUSION OF OLDER PEOPLE IN ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP ROLES

Grants of up to €7,500 are available to organisations working towards inclusion of older people in active citizenship roles.

Grants will support community based and national activities that promote older people as active citizens and build older people's capacity and potential **to take on roles in their community**. Social trips, parties or other primarily social activities will **not** be funded.

Applicants must show that service users/beneficiaries are involved or have been consulted in project planning where appropriate. Applicants must be prepared to evaluate and learn from their work as well as share project learning and outcomes and participate in two **Learning Networks of Grantees (see timeline above)**.

When applying online you will be asked to demonstrate the following:

- How does your project fit with the Fund's objectives in this particular category?
- Are there opportunities for collaboration?
- Demonstrate your organisation's capacity for the undertaking
- Provide a clear and realistic budget for the proposal
- Provide a timeline for the work.

Example of a successful grant under this category:

Organisation: IRD Duhallow

Project: The James O'Keeffe Institute in partnership with IRD Duhallow facilitated a *New Horizons and Active Citizenship Training Programme* which encouraged older people to believe in their power to influence what is happening in their communities through engagement in the political and decision making process at various levels.

The programme which was rolled out on the 4th, 10th, 16th and 17th of October 2013 was designed to empower and energise these older people to develop their own abilities and attributes as leaders, to have their voices heard and to contribute to their own respective communities.

Outcomes

The programme unlocked the **leadership potential** of the older people by giving them the information and inspiration they need to make a difference.

The project raised awareness and **triggered discussion around improving services for older people**.

Participants were awakened to the **transferability of their skillset** e.g. retired people working with voluntary/community organisations and related matching of their skill sets with the needs of the various organisations, clubs etc.

The programme encouraged the participants to make a **positive contribution as active**

citizens in their communities.

Provided them with a deeper understanding of how **local democracy and decision-making** processes effects them.

Increased voter participation of older people in Duhallow. Active Citizenship/Voter Education workshops in relation to National, E.U. and Local Government Elections took place with 17 active retirement groups in advance of Local Elections and in advance of EU elections, during which awareness was raised of why it is important to utilise their right to vote.

SUPPORTING OLDER PEOPLES' VOICES AT A LOCAL & NATIONAL LEVEL

Grants of up to €7,500 are available to organisations working towards supporting older peoples' engagement in advocacy.

Grants will support projects that empower older people to **become advocates on issues that affect them**; this can include training to influence policy, developing community decision-making processes, building leadership or negotiation skills and other innovative projects to give greater "voice" to older people.

Applicants must show that service users/beneficiaries are involved or have been consulted in project planning where appropriate. Applicants must be prepared to evaluate and learn from their work as well as share project learning and outcomes and participate in two **Learning Networks of Grantees (see timeline above)**.

When applying online you will be asked to demonstrate the following:

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Example of a successful grant under this category:

Organisation: County Wicklow Network for Older People

Project: The grant received in 2013 enabled the Co Wicklow Network for Older People (CWNOP) (a county based advocacy and lobbying group run by older people) Ambassador Programme to be developed further and expanded throughout the county. To create a model of learning to enable the concept "**people having a voice a grassroots level through Network Ambassadors**" to be replicated.

They wanted to engage people not already involved in the organisation to be involved

and use their voice. They recruited local people in communities across Co. Wicklow, providing them with the skills necessary to facilitate older people in raising issues of concern.

Outcomes:

The **17 voluntary ambassadors** (many themselves over 65) fed this information back to **CWNOP. The CWNOP Executive then used this information to lobby and advocate on these issues.**

Ambassadors also attended events and seminars and produced and disseminated newsletters on issues raised by local Older people (that included among many energy hardship, loneliness and isolation, advocacy for people in A & E, fear of burglary) to the relevant groups, individuals and to nursing homes.

This programme supported older peoples' voices at grassroots level to not only influence the delivery of services at local level but also **decision-making at a political level through the CWNOP.**

CRITERIA:

All applications will be judged on the following criteria.

Strategic Fit

The proposed project must serve an identified need, work with the target group and fit with the Fund's objectives

Applicants must demonstrate why their organisation is best placed to lead the project

Realistic Budget

The proposed project must include clear, detailed, realistic costs and timescales

Reach

The proposed project is not internal to the organisation but has a wider community reach and potential for wider impact within the sector

Measurable Results

Applicants must be prepared to track project activity throughout the duration of the project and will be asked when applying to demonstrate how this will be done (i.e. what means will you use to measure progress, successes, challenges and results throughout the duration of the project). Applicants must be prepared to evaluate and learn from their work

Collaboration

Commitment to working in partnership with other organisations and a willingness to share project learning and outcomes must be demonstrated.

APPLICANT REQUIREMENTS

- a) Applicant organisations should have an annual income of **not more than €2,000,000**. Documentary evidence may be requested
- b) All applicant organisations must declare their organisations annual income on the online application form. Depending on your organisation's income you must submit either your organisation's Annual Accounts or most recent set of Audited Accounts ***See Annual Accounting Requirements below**
- c) Applicant organisations should have an organisational bank account or access to one. A copy of a recent bank statement must be submitted with your application, for verification purposes
- d) Multiple applications by one organisation may not be made
- e) A willingness to share learning with others
- f) Commitment to working in partnership with other organisations must be demonstrated
- g) Proposals must include clear, detailed, realistic costs and timescales
- h) Applicant organisations should have an organisational bank account or access to one. A copy of a recent bank statement must be submitted with your application, for verification purposes
- i) We encourage applicant organisations to consider adopting The Governance Code for charities – see www.governancecode.ie
- j) Applications must be from community and voluntary groups that possess charitable aims and are not for profit
- k) A commitment to equal opportunities must be demonstrated

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

- a) Please acknowledge the support of The Community Foundation for Ireland on any materials associated with the grant, should your application be successful
- b) As a condition of receiving a grant from The Community Foundation, organisations are required to submit a **Project Plan** after receiving their grant. In addition, **Interim** and **Final Outcome Reports** will be required. Report Guidelines will be supplied in due course
- c) The grants are partly to create a learning network and to help share the outcomes of your work. The person leading the project will be required to participate in two Network and Learning Events, the first on **6th September 2017**. The second in 2018 (date tbc).

HOW TO APPLY/PROCESS

1. Check you meet the Criteria and can fulfil the Applicant and Reporting Requirements as above
2. Ensure that the timing of your project is suitable

3. Use the online application form from our website
4. If you have any questions please contact us on info@foundation.ie or 01 874 7354

Closing Date: Thursday 4.30pm 23rd March 2017

NOTE: Your application will be acknowledged. If you do not receive an acknowledgement please contact us info@foundation.ie or on **01 874 7354**.

***Annual Accounting Requirements Social Change Grants 2017**

Note: based on annual accounting regulations from the Charities Regulatory Authority 2017

Band A Organisations with Gross Annual Income of Less than €10,000	Band B Organisations with Gross Annual Income of €10,001 - €100,000	Band C Organisations with Gross Annual Income of more than €100,001
It is optional for a charity in this income bracket to provide a profit and loss account (or income and expenditure account and statement of assets and liabilities) for the reporting period	Must provide a profit and loss account (or income and expenditure account and statement of assets and liabilities) for the reporting period.	Must provide a full set of audited accounts for the reporting period - including directors and auditors reports.

Organisations not legally obliged to provide Annual Accounts:

Charities with a gross income of less than €10,000.

Education Bodies.



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