



Masonic
Charitable Foundation

The Application Process

GRANTS TO CHARITIES



For Freemasons, for families, for everyone

www.mcf.org.uk

Background

Registered charities apply through our website **mcf.org.uk/community**, which also offers further information about our grant programmes. After completing a short quiz to check they fit our criteria, charities are directed to the start of the online application form. Smaller charities are encouraged to apply for core funding grants, whereas organisations with incomes over £500,000 can apply for large grants for specific projects. Our enquiries officers are happy to offer advice to charities; their number is **0203 146 3337**. If you know a charity that would benefit from a grant, please email: **charitygrants@mcf.org.uk**

Assessment

Charities go through a rigorous assessment process before being selected for MCF's support. The Charity Grants team conducts a thorough due diligence process to ensure the applicant charity is fully compliant. This includes:

- Checking Charity Commission registration
- Examining financial history
- Scrutinising structure, services and activities
- Assessing local need and demand for their services
- Testing the capacity and sustainability of an organisation and its projects
- Evaluating reach and potential impact

The application is then presented to the Charity Grants Committee, comprised of experienced charity sector individuals, for a final decision.



Notification

3

Once a grant has been approved, the appropriate Metropolitan Grand Lodge/Provincial Grand Lodge (Province) is contacted to ensure there is no reason why the grant should not be awarded and to provide local knowledge which might be of use during the promotion phase. Each Province is given two weeks to offer feedback before we notify the charity. If there are no objections, the charity is informed that they have been awarded a grant and reminded of how our organisation is funded.

Both the charity and relevant Provincial Grand Lodge are given each other's contact details allowing them to liaise directly with each other.

Payment

Grants are paid directly to charities by bank transfer so they can access vital funds and start to implement projects, enabling them to run efficiently and plan ahead. This ensures that those in need receive support as quickly as possible.

Conditions

Every charity that receives a grant from MCF must produce a report to show what impact the grant achieved. They must also publicise the source of the grant (both MCF and their local Province) and make it clear that the MCF is funded by Freemasons in England and Wales.



Promotion



4

The Communications Team will work with the Province and recipient charity to promote each grant.

For Large Grants, the Press Officer will:

- Facilitate a Provincial visit to the charities, where photographs and film will be made.
- Arrange a written press release(s) regarding the grant which will be sent out to all relevant local/regional/national news outlets.

The Press Officer will continue to liaise with both the Communications Officer of the relevant Province and recipient charity until the publicity obligations have been met.

For Small Grants, the Communications Team will:

- Send a publicity pack to both the recipient charity and appropriate Province that will contain:
 - Contact details for a representative from both the Province and the charity
 - 'Promote the grant' guides
 - Photo props to use at events
 - A3 certificate to present to the charity (Provincial pack only)
 - Template press release
 - Online resources
 - MCF branded merchandise (charity pack only)
 - FAQs about the MCF and Freemasonry (charity pack only)

