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**TELECOMMUNITY FUND**

The Telecommunity Fund was established with capital from BT, management and unions.  It exists to support small, locally based grass roots community projects.

**Grants available: The minimum grant available is £500 and in general grants around £1,000 will be available, however, in exceptional occasions larger grants may be awarded.**

**Who can apply:**

* Constituted grass roots community and voluntary groups

**Criteria:**

* Priority will be given to applications from small groups, typically with an annual income of less than £200,000, as evidenced in most recent set of accounts
* Projects must aim to support one of the following groups:
  + Young people
  + Older people.
  + People with disabilities.
* Priority will be given to projects that will benefit groups dealing with disadvantage (e.g. rural isolation, low income, social exclusion, reduced access to services), and projects that involve the beneficiaries in their development and delivery.

**Examples of types of projects that may be supported within Fund themes:**

* Community education and training opportunities
* Communication and leadership skills
* Local initiatives to improve resources and community facilities
* Creativity and self-expression through drama, music or a range of arts activities
* Inclusion and involvement of disadvantaged communities
* Out of school projects for young people

**The Telecommunity Fund will not support:**

* Individuals
* Salary Costs and ongoing running costs
* Capital projects and large equipment
* Trips outside Northern Ireland, holidays away and one-off residentials
* Sports activities
* Promotion of religion or party politics
* Projects that have already started
* Replacement for statutory funding
* Portable IT equipment (except in exceptional circumstances and at panel's discretion)

**Guidance for Applicants**

**Grants panels will be held three times per annum. Applicants are advised to submit full applications with all relevant supporting documentation at least one month in advance of the next panel date.**

**Dates for submission of applications in advance of each panel meeting will be detailed on the CFNI website** [www.communityfoundationni.org](http://www.communityfoundationni.org)

**Applicants are required to provide supporting documentation with their application including:**

**signed governing document,**

**management committee details,**

**signed financial annual accounts (audited if organisation’s income is over £100,000 and as stated on governing document,**

**a recent bank statement (no more than three months old),**

**organisation policies and procedures if relevant to project, e.g. Child Protection Policy and Vulnerable Adult Policy.**

**Applications must include the required documentation or they may not be assessed.**

**Applicants are encouraged to contact the Grants and Donor Care Team for pre-application support by telephoning 028 9024 5927.**

**To apply please complete the online**[**Application form**](http://applications.communityfoundations.org.uk/Entry.aspx?DeliveryAgentID=156&FundName=Telecommunity&FormName=Large) **….**