

Integrated Interventions for England

Establishing strategic partnerships to ensure early and effective interventions for young carers and their families

Introduction

The Princess Royal Trust for Carers (hereafter referred to as The Trust) is using a large proportion of its award from the Department for Education (DfE) to deliver a grants programme open to statutory and Third Sector 'partnership sites'. These partnerships will work together to embed family focused approaches specifically focusing on early intervention and prevention of excessive or harmful caring and improving integrated interventions for young carers (aged under 18) and their families across England.

The programme is focused on funding the delivery of outcome focused work that clearly meets the overall and specific aims and clearly addresses the broader issues that can lead to young carers and their families receiving more intensive and costly interventions after which excessive or harmful caring has already taken place and is somewhat embedded within the family structure. Successful partnership sites, led by a Third Sector partner will be those that clearly demonstrate how it will work towards adopting an inclusive and whole family approach, sustainable following the end of the funding period. The maximum grant available is £65,000 for 18 months delivery from March 2012.

Background

Young carers are young people who carry out significant caring tasks and may assume levels of responsibility for other people which would ordinarily be taken on by an adult. Third Sector organisations and projects are already a valued source of support for many thousands of young carers nationally, offering personal counselling, group activities, short breaks and other forms of support. This is also the case for many family members who receive bespoke support for the condition that means that they require care. However, there is increasing recognition that support and respite for young carers themselves, or separate support for those requiring care though beneficial, will not in isolation remedy the factors which may be causing children to take on or to continue in excessive or harmful caring roles.

The Trust has been consistent in its key messages on young carers to policy makers namely that young carers and their families should be able to choose the level of care they provide and that adult services need to play a more significant role in supporting adults who are also parents. There is strong evidence that these policy messages are being heard at a central government level, particularly in the 2010 Carers Strategy refresh which detailed The Trust's recommendation for services to work together to support young carers and their families. Commitment from local authorities to these approaches is growing but remains inconsistent across England regions. This programme is focused on directly addressing this issue and alongside funding specific partnerships to embed these approaches in their local support to young carers and their families, is committed to sharing the learning with the wider sector to affect change across England.

Where Third Sector organisations working with young carers have already developed approaches and joint working protocols with statutory departments (e.g. adult social care and health services), young carers and their families are experiencing improvements in

outcomes for the whole family, as individuals and as a unit. Through funding the development of structured partnership sites, The Trust hopes this programme will encourage greater collaboration between organisations that traditionally have focused on individual family members particular needs, leading to the provision of innovative solutions that support early and effective intervention with disadvantaged, marginalised and troubled families, which we know can have a significant impact. The Trust would expect this early intervention to include direct support for family members and young carers aged under 18, activities aimed at building families resilience and a structured approach to identifying and supporting emerging issues which prevents 'crisis development'.

Programme aims

In order to achieve the desired impact for young carers, their families and the systemic change in the delivery of services by the partnership sites, the overall aim of the Integrated Interventions programme is:

“Partnership sites adopt an inclusive and whole family approach that prevents or reduces the amount of excessive or harmful caring undertaken by young carers under 18 in England”.

To ensure that the partnership sites are clearly focused on addressing the overall aim, members of the National Young Carers Coalition supported The Trust in developing four key programme specific aims. Applicants will need to demonstrate, through the use of objectives and outcome targets how their proposed project will meet each of the following:

1. Families resilience is increased to prevent or reduce the amount of excessive or harmful caring undertaken by young carers under 18 in England

The outcome measurement tool, specifically designed for work with young carers, will help funded projects to establish a baseline and progression towards this aim for each young carer in receipt of the funded intervention. Applicants should detail what tools/methods they will adopt to measure progression towards this aim for other family members. This could be measured by a reduction in amount of anxiety or an increase in self-esteem experienced by the young carer or an increase in confidence of parenting skills.

2. The partnership ensures a ‘no wrong door’ approach to service provision and practice within statutory and voluntary sector stakeholders to prevent or reduce the amount of excessive or harmful caring undertaken by young carers under 18 in England

The partnership site should work towards improved multi-agency approaches to better identify and support young carers and their families. Services across health, social care, education and the voluntary sector are more effectively integrated to support young carers and their families. This can be done through a number of ways including:

- pathways detailing how young carers and families access the support they need;
- multi agency group meetings (working as a team around the community to bring together the key services that support young carers and their families to provide coordinated responses to their identified needs);
- teams that bring together professionals from a range of disciplines who are managed and deployed at a locality level;

- resources that allow for efficient joint working for a range of statutory, voluntary and other services in the partnership site.

3. Sustainable whole family approaches are developed at all levels and by all partners to prevent or reduce excessive or harmful caring undertaken by young carers under 18 in England

The partnership site should be working towards developing procedures that can be sustained following the end of the funding period. Objectives towards this aim should be demonstrating the process towards making this a reality between the partner organisations.

4. Knowledge, skills and resources developed from partnership sites that demonstrate the prevention or reduction of excessive or harmful caring are made available.

Applicants must be able to demonstrate that other organisations within the sector will be able to learn from the proposed project. This can be demonstrated through the production of information, materials, presentations or methods that have supported the partnership site in sharing lessons learnt methods of working with specific groups or communities or in the delivery of a specific intervention.

One of the objectives must be relate to the delivery of training and/or awareness raising sessions to education, social and health teams and the involvement of young carers and/or their family members must be incorporated.

It is recognised that some applicants will have a stronger resonance to particular aims but **all** must demonstrate some level of alignment to each specific aim. In order to do this, applicants will need to list up to three objectives that show a clear association between their proposed project and the specific programme aim. Examples of relevant objectives include:

- Develop and produce resources to promote best practice in developing awareness of identifying young carers
- Enhance and develop collaborative relationships with relevant agencies to promote early intervention
- Develop whole family focused referral pathways for young carers and their families
- Provide activities to young carers whilst family members are accessing support
- To hold awareness raising sessions with education professionals alongside young carers and/or family members

Evaluation

It is crucial to the success of the programme that funded projects are able to generate clear evidence of effectiveness. To this end, all funded projects will be required to make an explicit commitment to actively use the tools found within 'The Manual for Measures of Caring Activities and Outcomes for Children and Young People'. Projects will make use of the tools within the manual to specifically measure progression against programme aim 1 but may also find it useful in the general assessment and evaluation work with young carers.

Please do take some time to have a look through the manual before completing the application form. It is available on line at the following address:

<http://static.carers.org/files/2248-yc-outcomes-manual-sb-4047.pdf>

There will also be an external evaluation of the programme as a whole. This evaluation will look at each partnership site for progression towards aims, potential for effect on early intervention strategies, locally and regionally. Further information on the evaluation framework will be made available to the funded partnerships.

Application process

The Integrated Interventions programme has a one stage application process with the closing date for the submission of applications being 5pm on **Monday 6th February 2012**.

Who can apply?

The Integrated Interventions programme will accept applications from partnerships consisting of Third sector organisations (that have demonstrable experience of delivering services to young carers and/or their families) and a statutory partner who are going to work together to achieve the aims in England only. You do not have to be part of The Princess Royal Trust for Carers network of Carers' Centres to apply. The Third Sector partner will act as the lead in managing and reporting on the use of the awarded funds. The statutory partner could be a specific department or team within a local authority.

Partnerships should be committed to achieving aims in both service delivery to young carers and their families and in effecting strategic change in how they work together on a longer term basis.

If you would like to discuss whether your partnership is a viable option, please contact a member of the Grants team on the number below.

It is Trust's intention to fund approximately 9 partnerships. Whilst achieving a fair spread across the 9 English government regions is important, awarding funds to those who demonstrate the most alignment to the programme aims will be the assessment team's primary brief. Each partnership site will be awarded a maximum of £65,000. 25% of the award will be made in advance in March 2012 with the remaining payments to be agreed as per the submitted budget.

There is no expectation that applicants should apply for the full amount of funding available so please do apply for the amount required to deliver the proposed project effectively and use the budget table to demonstrate the need for the funding requested.

What can the funding be used for?

Applicants will need to show that they are ready to begin service delivery as soon as possible following notification of the award. Therefore, projects that require significant lead in or development time are unlikely to be considered for funding. The funding cannot however be used to support work activity that is already underway by the time of award. Applicants will need to show how elements of the proposed project are either an extension of an existing service or early developmental work has shown promise and positive outcomes for service users. Funding cannot be used to fund activities that are a statutory responsibility to provide.

The Integrated Interventions programme will consider revenue and capital costs that show a clear relationship to the effective delivery of the proposed project. Capital costs should not exceed 5% of the total application. Submitted budgets should follow full cost recovery principles. This means that the fund will consider the 'real' cost to the organisation of

delivering the funded project (e.g. office costs, relevant training costs, travel costs and appropriate levels of line management). Please itemise each item in the submitted budget.

Detail required in submitted application forms

The application form has been designed to gather comprehensive information from each applicant to select those that demonstrate the best 'fit' with the overall and specific programme aims. Further information on the detail required for specific areas of the application form has been provided below.

PART A: About the lead organisation

Please describe the main aims and activities of the lead organisation.

The Third Sector partner should be completing this section. Please provide information on the current aims and activities of your organisation. This should also include details on how long the organisation has been delivering services to its primary beneficiaries and if different, how young carers and their family members are supported

PART B: Beneficiary information

Tell us about the young carers and families the project will be targeting and why they have been chosen.

Please specify who your proposed project will be working with. The assessment team is interested to know why you have chosen to work with the young carers and families you have identified. This is your chance to tell us specific information about the community (or communities) the young people are from and why your organisation would define them as disadvantaged and marginalised. In this section, it is useful to use a mixture of 'hard facts' and more anecdotal evidence you have to support your assertions. What we are looking for here is a clear understanding of the beneficiaries the project is aimed at.

Please use the space below to explain on what basis you have come to the above figures (numbers of young carers to be worked with).

Please tell us why you feel that the number of young carers to be targeted is feasible over the course of the project. For some, this may be due to the high number of young carers – in this case we need to understand the level of support the project will be providing them with. For others the numbers of young carers may appear low due to the intensive work needed with the targeted community. What we are interested in understanding is how the staff allocated to the project will be effectively used to work with the identified number of young carers.

How will you make sure targeted young carers and the family members are aware of the project?

The assessment team is interested to know of your initial plans to encourage identified beneficiaries to engage with the project. For example, this could include making use of existing partnerships and/or developing new ones, providing detail of the advertising plans or receipt of agency referrals.

How will you continue to engage beneficiaries throughout the course of the project?

Here, we would like to know is how you will keep young carers and their families who traditionally may not have (positively) engaged with support services previously engaged with the project.

From the targeted community, what methods will you adopt to identify the young carers undertaking harmful or excessive caring to benefit from the project?

In answering this question, explain what criteria will be drafted to decide which families will benefit from the intervention e.g. how will you ensure that the intervention is being delivered to those most in need?.

PART C: Partnership and project information

Outline the need(s) your proposed project will address.

We are asking you here to identify the need you hope the proposed project will address and provide supporting evidence of the existence of the need. The evidence should also provide support for how your proposed project will contribute towards meeting the overall programme aim and/or specific aims. There are a number of ways that you can demonstrate or evidence need and we advise all applicants to use a range of the below methods:

- Local research
- Evaluations/reports on previous projects (either within your organisation or another organisation)
- Academic research
- Qualitative evidence of impact provided by stakeholders.
- Results of user consultations and/or user involvement activities
- Government documents/guidance and legislation

Where possible, please include electronic links to documents referred to within this section. Where paperwork is not available online, you will need to attach **one** paper copy with your submitted application.

Please provide a comprehensive description of the project.

This is your chance to tell us about the project that you are requesting funding for. This should provide the assessment panel with a clear overall picture of the project, what *change* you think the project will bring and a brief outline of how the project will bring about this change (e.g. project outputs). Please make clear reference to how a whole family approach will be incorporated. You will provide further detail on the finer project details further on in the application.

Please avoid using jargon and abbreviations that may be commonly used within the young carers sector. If the application is successful, The Trust may then use also these descriptions in ongoing publicity.

Staffing

Due to the timescale of the project, it is not anticipated that young carers services will engage in extensive recruitment activities to deliver the proposed project. However, an existing staff member may need to have an amended job role to deliver the project. In this case please list new. In cases where an existing post will deliver elements of the project, please list existing.

Please note: For any roles that you request funding to support, you will need to attach a copies of job descriptions to the submitted application.

Please describe how the proposed project will promote approaches that focus on early intervention/prevention for the young carer and/or family members.

We are interested in seeing what effect you think the project will have on the delivery of approaches that focus on early intervention/prevention by other stakeholders (e.g. other departments/teams within the statutory partner and/or Third Sector provider). The approaches could include Family Group Conferencing and mediation; advocacy; mentoring (for parent and/or young carer); out of hours support, Team around the Family (TAF) approach etc.

PART D: Statutory Partner Information

This section should be completed by the statutory partner. The assessment team will be examining these answers to measure the effect the project will have on the department and the process of working with young carers and their families. This section will need to have a senior manager within the department to agree to take overall management responsibility for the delivery of the project within their department.

PART E: Project Planning Table

As described above, the Integrated Interventions programme has selected four specific programme aims that all applicants must structure their proposed projects objectives towards meeting. Below is a brief overview of the information required in each column and examples have been provided in the application form.

Objectives: Please provide **up to three** objectives that relate to each specific aim. These objectives should describe the pieces of work you propose to do to achieve the aim e.g. headlines under which related activities (to be described in the other table columns) can clearly fit under.

Please note: At least one of the objectives relating to the development of knowledge, skills and resources must relate to the delivery of training and awareness raising workshops or sessions to education, social and health care teams. Young carers and family members should be involved in the delivery, design and evaluation of these activities.

Outputs: These are the detailed activities, services and products the proposed project will provide in order to meet your identified project objectives (e.g.: drop-in sessions, training sessions for social care professionals in adult services).

Outcome targets: These are descriptions of changes that may have occurred as a result of the project activity. Used in conjunction with the project objectives, they can also provide evidence as to whether the expected outcome is occurring, thus progress against the programmes specific and overall aims. These should provide a quantitative and qualitative measure (e.g. 90% of young carers will have an increased sense of self-esteem).

Partnership lead: It is important that the organisation's capacity to deliver the project has been a factor within the project planning process. Please let us know who will be responsible for delivering against each objective. This does not necessarily need to be a staff member within the funded organisation e.g. this could be an identified project partner.

Please describe how young carers and their family member(s) will be included in the decision making process of the outputs of the project.

Please describe the user involvement activities the partnership will undertake to involve beneficiaries in the decision making process of the outputs of the project as a whole. This may not be applicable to every objective but we would expect to see involvement in the majority of the activities.

PART F: YOUNG CARERS ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

All of the applications will be assessed by a group of young carers. They will only receive the information submitted in this section so it is in your interest to ensure that the information is easy to read and translates to a young carer audience. Please avoid using jargon and/or abbreviations. The questions asked mirror other sections of the application form so you may find it useful to revisit specific areas of the form when answering these questions. Please ensure that the word limits are adhered to as any information over this will not be read.

PART H: Budget

Please provide enough information to demonstrate that the project has been realistically budgeted for. All budget headings should clearly relate to the project outputs provided within the Project Planning table.

If you are applying for funding for a post(s), please use separate lines to describe salary, NI, pension and related management costs.

Project activity costs should also be broken down into clear categories e.g. publicity materials, transport, venue costs, volunteer expenses, meeting costs etc.

PART I: Declaration

Please read through the declaration and ensure the form is signed by an appropriate person authorised to sign on behalf of the organisation (e.g. Chair, CEO, Treasurer).

Selection process

The assessment panel will include colleagues from across The Trust, members of the NYCC and young carers. This range of assessors will treat all applications fairly and use the agreed criteria items listed below to select the projects with the strongest alignment to the overall and specific aims of the programme:

- Partners are appropriate and will work together to achieve programme aims
- Clearly defined primary beneficiaries who are young carers (aged up to 18)
- Has identified and evidenced nature of marginalised and disadvantages communities the project plans to work with.
- Clear description of the project where whole family approach is well incorporated into proposed project
- Can be replicated
- Evidence of need is appropriate
- Staff identified appropriate
- Has the potential to have significant impact on target community
- Added value to the organisation and sector

- Contribution to overall programme aim

You may find it useful to keep this in mind when compiling your answers.

How do you apply?

After reading through the guidelines in full, please download an electronic copy of the application form. You can either complete the application form electronically or print and complete by hand in black ink.

You will need to submit an electronic copy of the application form and a completed budget by **6th February 2012**. Acknowledgement of receipt of application will be sent to the email address provided in PART A within 48 hours of receipt.

This will then need to be followed by **two, single sided** copies of your completed application form both of which will need to be signed by a person authorised to sign on behalf of your organisation.

Please **post** your application with all required attachments (obtaining a proof of posting if not making use of recorded or special delivery services) to the following address:

**Grants Team
Integrated Interventions
c/o The Princess Royal Trust for Carers
14 Bourne Court, Southend Road
Woodford Green, Essex, IG8 8HD**

Please ensure that the correct postage has been attached to the application form as this may delay the receipt of your application.

Hard copy applications should reach the Trust no later than **5pm on Friday 10th February 2012**. Applications received after this time will not be considered.

Timetable

Decisions about awards will be made by young carers and stakeholders from the young carers sector in late February 2012. All applicants will be contacted with decisions in early March 2012 and successful projects will be asked to sign project specific conditions of grant. Following successful submission of the conditions, funded projects will be paid approx. 35% of their award in advance by mid March 2012.

Unsuccessful projects will be provided with brief feedback on their application within the decision letter.

Questions?

If you have any further queries that are not covered within the guidelines, please do not hesitate to contact the Grants Team at The Trust via email: grants@carers.org or via telephone on 020 8498 7934.