

**BARNWOOD TRUST**  
*“helping to meet special needs arising from disability”*

**GRANTS TO ORGANISATIONS**

[www.barnwoodtrust.org](http://www.barnwoodtrust.org)

***ABOUT THE TRUST***

If your organisation or group aims to help maintain the independence and improve the quality of life of Gloucestershire people with disabilities, the Trust may be able to support your work with the help of grants.

Barnwood Trust is a charitable foundation whose purpose is to help meet special or exceptional needs arising from physical and mental disability among people of Gloucestershire. The Trust can help people with:

- Serious physical disability (including terminal illness but not remedial conditions)
- Acute or persistent mental illness (but not substance abuse)
- Serious learning disabilities

In 2007 the Trust awarded nearly 100 grants to Gloucestershire organisations, totalling over £1,000,000 (excluding medical research and grants to individuals).

***WHO DEALS WITH GRANT-MAKING?***

The Board of Trustees delegate grant-making to organisations and voluntary groups to a Grants Committee which meets quarterly. The meeting dates (which may be subject to change) in 2010 are:

19 January \* 4 May \* 3 August \* 2 November

To allow good time for assessment of applications, the normal deadlines for receiving application forms are:

11 December \* 26 March \* 25 June \* 24 September

***WHAT ARE GRANTS MADE FOR?***

Grants are made for charitable work carried out in Gloucestershire across a wide range of activity helping disabled people. These include day care, respite care in its various forms, welfare services such as individual case, advocacy or support work, occupational therapies, holidays, social and recreational activities, transport, disability adaptations, building projects, pre-employment training and equipment. The Trust will also consider good proposals which add value to services provided or paid for by the public sector where our grant will directly benefit the end-user. Grants may also be made for pilot projects and for social research.

Grants are made for specific needs which may be for capital or revenue costs. While most requests are “one-off”, the Trust has the capacity to help selected organisations with core or project revenue funding. Where the proposed project is new, the need for and the viability of schemes will be examined in detail. Revenue grants are time limited, not normally for more than three years.

Grants Committee also operates a small grants programme and can consider applications up to £750 on a fast track basis. A letter from the applicant organisation is all that is needed to apply for a small grant, unless the Trust has not helped before. In that case we ask you to complete our application form so we can learn more about your group. We aim to deal with fast track requests within fifteen working days.

Applications are considered in competition with other appeals in hand and in the light of available funds. The public sector is now more focussed on delivering services to those in the greatest need. The Trust, therefore, may give greater priority to schemes helping people with a disability who do not qualify for such services but who have a real need that they are unable to afford themselves.

When putting forward your proposal, please remember it is better for your organisation or a particular project not to be dependent on a sole or prime funder and the Trust is not able to help non-disabled people.

***THE APPLICATION & ASSESSMENT***

It can be helpful to make contact with the office before making a formal application. Sometimes there can be doubt about a proposal meeting the remit, current policy or concerns of the trustees, so the enquiry will be referred to Grants Committee for an

indicative response. We regret that this may cause a delay but it does save your organisation from sending in a detailed proposal only to be advised later that it will not be considered.

The Trust uses an application form which is designed to help Grants Committee understand the nature of your organisation, its finances and about the project for which you seek funding. The application form will be sent to the organisation by post or by email.

Once the Trust receives the completed application, the process should take no more than three months (unless it is “fast track”). During that time you will normally be visited by a committee member and that is your opportunity to reinforce the value of your work. Our mission is to help people with disabilities and you can help the Trust by giving the trustees the opportunity to invest in your work!

Any additional material you wish the Trust to consider should be presented on loose-leaf A4 sheets ready for photocopying. Please also send your most recent set of audited accounts. Reference to other bodies (including past or present funders) may be made in order to validate or clarify statements made in the application.

Grants, once agreed, may be paid immediately or held open for twelve months if the project is not quite ready to proceed. Grants may have conditions attached to them, including a legal claw-back requirement in respect of capital grants.

Grants may be drawn down at any time during the pledge period on production of required invoices. Applicant organisations receiving grants of £5,000 and over will be asked to complete a feedback form to help the Trust evaluate the impact of its grant-making. Selected organisations or beneficial groups may also be interviewed as part of that process.

## ***WHAT THE TRUST DOES NOT SUPPORT***

Grants are not normally made –

- for work outside Gloucestershire
- for building or adapting private/public sector/social housing
- to start up or subsidise services purchased or contracted out by the public sector
- where the applicant organisation has significant unrestricted reserves or
- operates in a manner that excludes people e.g. unaffordable fees
- for core funding to the public sector
- to non-disability organisations to make community buildings more accessible to people with disabilities unless there is an exceptional need
- for a management charge applied to a project
- for any work that is not aimed specifically at disabled people

*For further information contact:*

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