



## Disaster Fund Skills Workshops

### About the Workshop

You will have the opportunity to come together with other experienced grant-making professionals to explore the learning from grant-making in disasters and emergencies in the UK, with a view to being part of a cohort of grant-makers across the UK who can support funding in future emergency situations in the UK based on a shared understanding of what's needed.

The workshop will focus on sharing accounts and key learning from those who have been active in responding to disasters and emergencies in recent years, rather than a honed skills masterclass, with plenty of time to ask questions and discuss. Over the course of each session you will hear some of the learning and insights from people involved in disaster funding to individuals, get access to the tools that were used, and meet others with direct experience or seeking to become part of a cohort of people who will be able to offer support and assistance in the event of a future disaster.

You will join an evolving conversation as well as gaining the practical knowledge, ideas and resources to be involved in this work if needed in the future.

The workshops will be delivered by staff from the London Emergencies Trust, We Love Manchester Emergency Fund and Cumbria Community Foundation. They will focus on the main types of grant making to individuals: (a) those bereaved (b) those injured (including psychological injury); and (c) those displaced, lost livelihoods or otherwise experiencing hardship as a result of an incident.

We will also connect you with the National Emergencies Trust (NET), which has been formed to collaborate with charities and other bodies, to raise and distribute money and support victims at the time of a domestic disaster. We are working closely with NET to support their preparedness re: future Disaster Appeals and distribution of donations.

### DATES AND LOCATIONS:

**NEWCASTLE:** Friday, 28<sup>th</sup> February 2020, 10.30am-3.30pm (arrival from 10am)

Venue: Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland, Philanthropy House, Woodbine Rd, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 1DD [www.communityfoundation.org.uk](http://www.communityfoundation.org.uk)

**CARDIFF:** Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> March 2020, 10.30am-3.30pm (arrival from 10am)

Venue: The National Lottery Community Fund, 10th Floor Belmont House, Churchill Way, Cardiff, CF10 2DY <https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/contact>

**LONDON:** Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2020, 10.30am-3.30pm (arrival from 10am)

Venue: Lift in Islington, 45 White Lion Street, London, N1 9PW [www.liftislington.org.uk](http://www.liftislington.org.uk)

### BOOKINGS:

To book please contact London Funders via [info@londonfunders.org.uk](mailto:info@londonfunders.org.uk)

*Delivered in partnership with London Funders and the National Emergencies Trust*

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## **Background**

Over the last decade, and stretching back to the London bombings in 2005, grant making to individuals has featured as one part of the response to terror attacks in London and Manchester, the Grenfell fire, and the flooding in Cumbria, Yorkshire and other parts of the UK.

That grant making has been possible because at times of emergency, the British public has donated large sums to help those affected - mainly through national and local appeals, but also now by way of the many giving platforms that exist.

These funds have been used mainly to make awards to those: bereaved or injured; displaced and made homeless; or otherwise experiencing hardship.

Grant making has also at times extended beyond direct assistance to individuals, and awards have been made to community organisations and other charities, recognising their importance in both response and the longer term process of recovery.

To give a sense of scale: following 7/7 the London Bombings Relief Charitable Fund distributed £12m to those bereaved or injured; in 2017/18, the London Emergencies Trust made grants totalling more than £11m to those bereaved or injured at the London attacks and the fire at Grenfell; in Manchester the We Love Manchester Emergency Fund (WLMEF) has gifted over £21.5m to those bereaved, physically and psychologically injured in the Arena attack as well as giving grants to fund support groups for people suffering from psychological injury and intensive physiotherapy for the most severely physically injured; and following the 2015 floods Cumbria Community Foundation distributed over £9.6m to households and communities suffering hardship.

This grant making has tended to be done by way of 'pop up' charities, which have emerged in response to a particular emergency, then go dormant (for example, London Emergencies Trust or WLMEF) and/or established locally-based charities, such as Community Foundations. In general, the former have tended to concentrate on cases of bereavement and injury, and the latter on hardship and grants to build voluntary sector capacity, though in practice the distinction is not clear cut. For example, WLMEF made awards across this full spectrum, as has the Cumbria Community Foundation in response to various incidents.

Grant making to individuals is seen as an area of practice that has particular challenges, and where most grant making organisations have only limited experience. Within this, grants assessment in respect of hardship, bereavement and injury all contain specific considerations.

Those involved in such 'disaster funds' in recent years, have come together to look at ways in which skills and learning can be shared with others in the grant making community as a means of improving preparedness in case of future emergencies. It is our intention, working with the National Emergencies Trust to establish a cohort of 100 grant makers from across the UK who - in 'peacetime' - will be able to learn about some of the skills and techniques necessary in this type of grant making and who, in times of disaster, form a group with the capability to assist response efforts or form a network of support and advice to those called upon to do this difficult and challenging work.

**4 February 2020**