

Proudly supporting
youth social action



Department for
Digital, Culture,
Media & Sport



Foundation

Peer support and youth-led advocacy to help young people experiencing bereavement: application guidance

About our funding

In February 2020, we are launching a new round of the Co-op Foundation #iwill Fund. This fund supports the aim of the #iwill campaign to make social action part of life for as many young people as possible. Youth social action involves activities that young people do to make a positive difference to others.

This round of our Co-op Foundation #iwill Fund is supported by Co-op Funeralcare. In this round, we're interested in organisations who can draw on existing learning and deliver peer support and/or youth-led advocacy projects to help young people experiencing bereavement. Youth-led advocacy is a form of social action, where young people explore issues which are important to them and speak out on behalf of others.

In this round, £50,000 is available and we expect to make around 5 grants of up to £10,000 each, for 1 year. Successful organisations will be able to apply for additional grants in year 2 and 3 of this fund.

The deadline to apply for this round is **midday on Friday 3 April 2020**.

Quick checklist - is this fund right for you?

Our #iwill Bereavement strand might be suitable for your organisation if you:

- are a charity, social enterprise or other form of not-for-profit voluntary or community group with a UK bank account in your organisation's name and at least two unconnected people on your board or management committee
- are based in the UK, and plan to work in one of the 30% most deprived areas
- will engage young people aged up to 20 years old
- can support young people navigating sensitive emotional challenges
- can deliver a peer support and/or youth-advocacy project
- can apply learning from other bereavement support into your own work
- have a child safeguarding policy.

What can funding be used for?

You can use funding to cover any costs related to carrying out your project, including but not limited to:

- salaries of staff involved in delivering or supporting the project
- costs of project activities
- contributions to organisational running costs
- costs for learning and evaluation activities.

Learning from a current project

One of our current partners works with young bereaved people. We've learned that young people benefit from developing skills like mindfulness to help them cope, and that some services or organisations they're in touch with don't always understand how best to support them.

Yvonne Gilligan, Chief Executive of Edward's Trust said *"We were funded through the Co-op Foundation's Building Connections Fund Youth strand where we delivered a project providing peer support and youth advocacy training to help young people experiencing bereavement.*

We learnt that young people liked being able to fit their involvement in the project around other commitments and found it useful to learn about coping strategies, helping them feel more confident in supporting themselves and others.

Some of the young people we supported faced barriers to getting involved and we found that covering things like travel expenses really helped."

You can read more about this project [here](#).

What we're looking for

Our Youth Advisory Group, who are aged between 13 and 18, will be involved in assessing these applications, so please make sure your application is clear and easy to understand, for example make sure any technical terms are explained and your responses have had input from young people themselves.

Your application will be assessed using the following criteria:

Peer support and/or youth advocacy

- Your project will give young people the skills and support they need to provide peer support and/or become advocates for improved bereavement support
- Your organisation is equipped to support young people navigating sensitive emotional challenges, such as bereavement

Youth voice

- Your project will draw on young people's first-hand experiences and insights about bereavement
- Your approach is informed and shaped by young people themselves

Evaluation and learning

- Your approach demonstrates a clear double benefit - to the young people providing peer support or taking part in advocacy, as well as the young people who benefit from these activities
- Your organisation can reflect on how learning from other bereavement support can be applied to your own work

Diversity and inclusion

- Your project is open and welcoming to young people, and will actively seek to include people who face barriers or are not already involved in youth social action
- Your project will benefit young people living in the 30% most deprived areas. If you like, you can refer to sources of data such as [Co-op's Community Wellbeing Index](#), the [English Index of Multiple Deprivation](#), the [Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation](#), the [Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation](#) or the [Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measures](#)

How to apply

Submit your application using [this online form](#) by **midday on Friday 3 April**.

You can also download a [word document version](#) of the application questions if you would like to use this to draft your answers. However, applications must be submitted via the online form.

Application timeline

20 February	Applications open
Midday, 3 April	Deadline to submit applications
27 April	Shortlisted applicants notified and asked to submit safeguarding and diversity policies Unsuccessful applicants receive an email from us with the decision
11 May	Deadline to submit policies and any other requested information
By end of June	Successful applicants notified by email and receive grant offer letter Unsuccessful shortlisted applicants receive an email from us with the decision

Contact us

If you have any questions about this fund, please contact foundation@coop.co.uk

The #iwill Fund

The #iwill Fund is a £40 million joint investment from the National Lottery Community Fund, using National Lottery funding, and the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) to support young people to access high quality social action opportunities. Co-op Foundation is acting as a match funder.

The #iwill campaign

#iwill is a UK-wide campaign that aims to make social action part of life for as many 10 to 20 year-olds as possible, forming a habit of community involvement they will continue as adults. For more information about what youth social action is, the #iwill campaign and the findings from the 2018 National Youth Social Action survey, visit www.iwill.org.uk.