

## Accessing Individual Funding

*We have compiled a list of trusts, foundations and grant-making bodies who have the capacity to cover individual funding. These opportunities can cover different areas and needs. We update the list regularly, but funds' criteria and availability may change.*

### General Grants and Support for Individuals

- [British Gas](#), [Scottish Power](#), [E.ON](#) and [OVO](#) all have hardship schemes that award grants towards energy bills to help reduce fuel poverty. Most will only accept applications from their own customers; however British Gas will accept requests from the customers of other providers too.
- [Family Action Welfare Grants](#) – provides grants for essential personal and household needs to assist families and individuals with low incomes, particularly those living on benefits.
- [Friends of the Elderly](#) – provides grants to older people over State Pension age, living in England or Wales, who have a low income and savings of less than £4,000. Grants are for items such as home mobility adaptations and help with unexpected bills and large costs such as utility bills, funeral costs or moving fees.
- [Glasspool Charity Trust](#) – provide small, one-off grants to individuals and families in need of financial support for everyday items to help them set up or remain in their home and/or improve their overall well-being. *They accept new applications from 11am each Monday.*
- [Hardship Help for Families in Kent](#) – Directory of Support for families experiencing hardship produced on behalf of the Local Children's Partnership Groups (LCPG) including a section with support in each KCC district.
- [Help for Households](#) – Government support for individuals to help with the cost of living.
- **Kent County Council Schemes and Support:**
  - [ReferKent](#) – is an online referral system that aims to strengthen referrals across Kent for adults and families who may be experiencing financial hardship.
  - [Digital Kent projects & schemes](#) – Including the [Hardware Access Scheme](#) to supply individuals with access to digital equipment, [Connectivity Access Scheme](#) to supply individuals with access to connectivity, currently with a mobile 4G Router, and the [Digital Support Scheme](#) to provide informal support to individuals (18 years old or over) that would like to improve their digital skills, motivation or confidence.
  - [KCC's Kent Support and Assistance Service \(KSAS\)](#) - Support in the form of goods and / or services, for those experiencing serious difficulties managing income due to a crisis or find themselves under exceptional pressures because of an emergency.
  - [Energy Financial Support](#) – Help from KCC if you are experiencing financial difficulty and paying your energy bill is a concern.
  - [Kent Together](#) – KCC service offering online information and helpline, to direct individuals to the support they need.
- [Lightning Reach Portal](#) – to apply for financial support such as grants, local schemes and discounted tariffs. Find and apply for support from multiple providers, quickly and easily. Summary of the current support providers [here](#).
- [Percy Bilton Charity](#) – Assistance given to organisations & individuals in need. Charities assisting disadvantaged youth, people with disabilities, people with mental health problems and older people may apply for grants towards furnishings and equipment (excluding office items), building or refurbishment projects.
- [SEK](#) – Cost of Living Support across East Kent.
- [Smallwood Trust](#) – award funding to women on low incomes and struggling to make ends meet, Cost of Living Fund.

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- [The Skinners' Benevolent Trust](#) - provides immediate-needs crisis grants of up to £275, for individuals and families to purchase essential household items. In West Kent (Tonbridge and Tunbridge Wells) and Romney Marsh only.
- [Turn2Us](#) – has a grants search tool specifically for individuals as well as a benefits eligibility checker.

### Grants for Education

- [Buttle UK](#) – grants of up to £2,000 for children and young people impacted by recent crisis to provide items and activities.
- [City and Guilds](#) – offers bursaries cover the total cost of studying for City & Guilds and ILM qualifications. Registrations currently closed, will reopen in 2023. Aimed at age 18 and over, in genuine financial need, UK resident and not started a course yet.
- [Colyer-Ferguson Charitable Trust](#) – make grants of up to £500 to support underprivileged and disadvantaged young people living in Kent, helping them to navigate the difficult journey into adulthood and employment.
- [Computers 4 Charities](#) – supporting young carers that require access to computers to seek help, engage with others and to facilitate wider educational needs and learning from home.
- [Family Action Educational Grants](#) – provides grants to individuals over the age of 14, looking to unlock their educational potential by participating in further education.
- [KCC](#) - Funding for projects that benefit children and young people including [Reconnect District Support Fund](#) supporting families in Dartford, Gravesham, Maidstone and Swale, [Short Breaks Grants](#) for children and young people with SEND and [Talents & Interests Grants](#) to support young people's emotional wellbeing and resilience
- [The Scholarship Hub](#) – search and apply for UK scholarships, grants or bursaries for university.
- [Thomas Wall Trust](#) – award grants up to £1,500 to undertake accredited vocational training up to level 3 and towards other costs associated with studying.

### Grants for Disabled people

- [Guide Dogs](#) – support for children & families including grants for assistive technology & sensory equipment.
- [Headway Emergency Fund](#) – provides one-off grants of up to £1,000 in the immediate aftermath of brain injury, to help adult brain injury survivors and their families cope with the sudden practical implications.
- [Independence at Home](#) – help for individuals who have a long-term illness or disability and need financial help towards the cost of equipment, home adaptations or other essential items to improve independence, comfort, safety and quality of life at home.
- [Involve - Personal Health Budgets for Wellbeing](#) – for young people up to age 24 with neurodiversity or suspected neurodiversity. Funding is a pilot project and only available to those with a Children's Health & Wellbeing Navigator at one of these [GP surgeries](#). To discuss, email [ellen.albinson@involvekent.org.uk](mailto:ellen.albinson@involvekent.org.uk).
- [Kent Association for the Blind](#) – assess for eligibility for free equipment and visit one of their resource rooms in Maidstone, Canterbury or Bromley, which stock equipment to sample.
- [The Family Fund](#) – equipment – award grants to families who are raising a disabled or seriously ill child or young person aged 17 or under and meet the rest of their eligibility criteria. Grants can be used for a wide range of items including sensory toys, family breaks, bedding, tablets, furniture, outdoor play equipment, clothing, and computers.

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- [The Langley Foundation](#) – grants to families at the early onset of illness or disability, who might own a small business, be a low-income family or perhaps reliant on benefits, to relieve financial pressure.
- [Mobility Trust](#) - provides powered wheelchairs and scooters for people who have severe disabilities and who cannot obtain such equipment through other means.
- [Roald Dahl's Marvellous Children's Charity](#) – provide specialist nurses and support for seriously ill children living with complex, lifelong conditions.

### Grants for Holidays

- [The Respite Association](#) – fund suitably qualified carers to take over so that the usual carer can take a well-earned break. Most grants are for a few hundred pounds. They also provide free week-long seaside holidays to enable carers to recharge their batteries.
- [The 3H Foundation](#) – helps people with disabilities and carers have a period of respite through their holiday grants and carer programme.
- [Clevedon Forbes Fund](#) – provide grants to UK citizens of limited means, to fund or part-fund short convalescent breaks for those recovering from illness or trauma, or to enable carers to take a break from their caring role.
- [Family Holiday Charity](#) – holiday offers for families on a low income, haven't had a holiday together in the last 4 years and at least one child under 18 who will go on the holiday. *Not accepting referrals until 2023.*
- [The Family Fund](#) – Holidays – grants awarded for family breaks and days out.
- [Mothers' Union 'Away from it all'](#) – a holiday scheme, giving the opportunity of a break to those who may be experiencing stress or difficulties in their family life.
- [Revitalise Respite Holidays](#) – is a national charity and provider of breaks and holidays for disabled people. Their website has a section on 'help with funding a respite holiday' which is relevant to finding funding for their respite holidays and for others.