Frontline Network Alliance - Funding Application Form 2021-2024

**(Deadline 5pm, Friday 13th August 2021)**

### About us

The [St Martin-in-the-Fields Charity](https://www.smitfc.org/) (SMC) was established in 2014. It was formed to enable St Martin-in-the-Fields to support people experiencing homelessness and who are vulnerably housed across the UK, and to build on the growth of the BBC Radio 4 Christmas Appeal with St Martin-in-the-Fields.

Historically the Charity has provided a core grant to [The Connection at St Martin's](https://www.connection-at-stmartins.org.uk/) as well as funding our small grants programme called the [Vicar’s Relief Fund](https://frontlinenetwork.org.uk/vicars-relief-fund/) (VRF).

Recently we have worked to increase the impact of all our grant making while developing the [St Martin’s Frontline Network](https://frontlinenetwork.org.uk/) to respond to homelessness in every part of the UK.

**Our vision:** Everyone has a safe place to call home and the support they need.

**Mission:** We support frontline workers across the UK as they empower people experiencing homelessness to secure and keep a safe place to live.

* ***We collaborate –*** *we work with those who understand homelessness best to find solutions together*
* ***We listen and learn*** *- we actively seek information and make decisions based on evidence*
* ***We build relationships*** *– we act in ways that foster trust and understanding*
* ***We focus on outcomes –*** *we work quickly, and favour simplicity over bureaucracy.*

### Grant Purpose Statement

The St Martin-in-the-Fields Charity has made available £500,000 for up to 5 charities that support our mission to support frontline workers as they empower people experiencing homelessness to secure and keep a safe place to live.

We anticipate awarding up to £100,000 per annum to each successful applicant.

We are looking to enter a working partnership where we provide funding to enable them to deliver existing services more effectively or develop a new service for which there is an evidence-based need.

We recognise that change requires commitment, so we anticipate this being a multi-year partnership where our funding relationships could stretch over a minimum of three years. Hence, we are seeking a strong partnership, where learning between ourselves and our Partners is shared.

Following feedback from the [Frontline Network](https://frontlinenetwork.org.uk/) and our existing Partner charities, we would particularly welcome the opportunity to work with charities which are focusing on one, or more, of the following areas, for example:

* **Immigration and homelessness** - No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF) and operating in the hostile environment to support those with immigration and homelessness issues. This area is becoming increasingly complex and uncertain for people directly accessing services and frontline staff/ organisations working to provide support provision.
* **Health and homelessness** - frontline workers have told us that it is difficult to access specialist healthcare support for people they are working with, particularly dual diagnosis issues. We are interested in understanding this issue and supporting an organisation seeking to address it.
* **Hidden homelessness –** thiscould include a focus on people who are sofa surfing; staying with friends and family and ‘hidden’ statistics, out of sight and mind from support and access to housing.
* **Safe, inclusive spaces and practice -**this could include a focus on spaces that offer gender-specific, trans-inclusive, LGBTQ+ safe, inclusive spaces and work practice.
* **Older people experiencing homelessness** – we are particularly keen to hear about work with men between the age of 30yrs and late 50yrs who can often be forgotten, and not seen as priority need.
* **Leaving secure settings** - adults and young people in contact with the Criminal Justice System, young people leaving care, people leaving Mental Health facilities.

### Way of working

We support using multi-disciplinary team approaches, that is, how staff and organisations work collaboratively to co-ordinate approaches across the voluntary, public and statutory sectors. We would anticipate seeing some evidence of this across all the activities we support.

### Approach

When we invite organisations to apply for a grant, we seek clarity on the issue to be addressed, who will benefit, why the work is needed, and the extent to which the work is informed by those working on the frontline and the people they support. We will also ask the potential Partners to explain how they will use the funding and how they know that their approaches are effective and will have an impact.

We encourage potential Partners to remain in contact with us during the development of their grant application. We want to hear from people who will be involved in the delivery of a project and best to identify measurable outcomes. In addition, we want to understand what has not worked well in the past and what has been learned as a result.

We want to tell your story and would look to include stories of your work in our fundraising activity. This would include the annual BBC Radio 4 Christmas Appeal with St Martin-in-the-Fields. We are committed to working in a person-led, strengths-based way through our work.

### Funding Criteria

We recognise that there are many charities who would like and would benefit from our support but, like any funder, we have a limit to the resources we have available.

We want to be open and transparent with charities and make best use of time by being clear in advance which charities and areas we are more likely to fund.

We welcome applications from all parts of the UK. We will prioritise spend outside of London and across the other UK Nations, as we currently provide funding to The Connection at St Martin's. All applicants will:

* Be a registered charity (this can be as a CIO)
* Be a Board of at least three unrelated Trustees
* Have its own bank account
* Have free reserves of less than 12 months’ operating costs
* Have at least one set of annual accounts published on the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, Charity Commission for England and Wales, Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator websites, having been delivering services for more than a year in the UK
* Have a track record of working with people experiencing homelessness
* Have a safeguarding policy in place – see below.

We would particularly like to work with small and medium sized organisations.

### Our approach to safeguarding

SMC is committed to promoting the safety of everyone that uses the services of the charities we fund and so will review your safeguarding arrangements and practice as part of our assessment. We recognise and take seriously our responsibility to promote the welfare of adults at risk and children, where we become aware of any safeguarding concerns.

SMC has in place a safeguarding policy and internal processes of our own, to ensure that reported incidents are effectively managed, and our staff are kept safe. Therefore, not only must your charity have a safeguarding policy in place, but we will also assess your understanding of this policy as well as the approach to safeguarding across your organisation.

### Timetable

Closing date for applications is 5pm on Friday 13th August 2021, we hope to make grant awards at the end of September.

During 16th August- 13th September, our assessment panel will review and assess all applications. At this point we will contact applicants with requests for further information, detail or questions on their applications by email. Shortlisted applicants will be invited to give a presentation and interview via an online meeting.

We are working to a timeframe of notifying successful applicants by 30th September 2021. Please note, timeframes may be subject to minor changes.

Next steps

Please complete the application form on pages 4 to 6, ensuring to include all relevant detail around the questions being asked. Once we receive all applications by 5pm on Friday 13th August 2021, our panel will review all applications and shortlist. During this time, we may come back to you with some questions on your application via email or to arrange a Teams call to talk these through.  
  
We will also be holding a webinar at 3pm on Thursday 8 July to talk through the process and answer questions applicants may have. This will be recorded and uploaded to our website.

We are working to a timeframe of confirming decisions, both successful and unsuccessful to all applicant organisations and have grant contracts in place by the end of September but appreciate timeframes may be subject to minor changes.

If you have any questions on this opportunity, then please do not hesitate to contact us at [Frontline@stmartinscharity.org.uk](mailto:Frontline@stmartinscharity.org.uk) Please note, we will also provide a general Q&A to support answering common questions to our website going forward at [www.frontlinenetwork.org.uk](http://www.frontlinenetwork.org.uk)

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|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Organisation name** |  |
| **Address** |  |
| **Email** |  |
| **Contact telephone** |  |
| **Charity registration number** |  |
| **Lead contact name** |  |
| **Who completed this application?**  List the team names |  |
| **List the roles of the people who completed this application.** |  |
| **Why did you choose this team?** |  |

**Tell us about your organisation**

Please tell us about your experience of working with people experiencing homelessness.

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| 100 words |

How does your mission and vision complement that of the St Martin-in-the-Fields Charity?

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| 100 words |

How would you summarise the strengths of your organisation?

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| 200 words |

**About your initiative**

We have identified several themes which we have heard from the Frontline Network are current and presenting needs. This is not a definitive list, and we will welcome applications focusing on other themes or areas of need. We are seeking clarity about what we can support and however it will support you.

Which thematic focus area(s) are you applying for funding for?

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|  |

Why have you focused on this theme / these themes?

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| --- |
| 100 words |

What evidence do you have that there is a need for this work?

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| --- |
| 200 words |

Please provide your plan below, for how you would use this funding?

* *Please include details of who would be your beneficiary group.*

*How was this idea informed and developed by frontline staff and / or people experiencing homelessness?*

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| --- |
| 200 words |

How will you assess whether this approach is effective?

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| --- |
| 150 words |

*What would a positive outcome look like to you?*

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| --- |
| 150 words |

**Using the funding**

Please tell us why our funding would make a difference to your organisation?

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| --- |
| 300 words |

Can you provide an example of a new initiative you have developed, or additional capacity you have added to an existing approach that has worked well?

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| 200 words |

Please devise a budget that indicates how you will use the funding. Please provide this as a separate attachment; this should show a full breakdown of anticipated costs against this idea and a maximum budget of £100,000 per annum.

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| Overview  See attached detailed budget |

**Outcomes, Output and Reporting**

We fully appreciate things don’t always work in practice, but we’re really keen to hear how you use lessons learnt in your work to adapt your practice going forward. Please can you provide an example of how you have previously reflected on learning to overcome a barrier in practice?

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| 200 words |

What do you think would be the best way to monitor and evaluate this work, to capture and measure outcomes?

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| 200 words |

What would you hope to be the legacy of this programme if funded?

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| 200 words |

What would be the best way for you to report to us?

* This will need to be a minimum of six-monthly narrative reporting with a budget update
* Please include how often, what format and what information you think this should include.
* Please also include thoughts for how you could update us in-between reporting. For example;
  + Sharing updates as and when they happen via Twitter, email, phone call
  + Writing a blog for our News and Views section
  + Sharing Stories to meet timeframes for our BBC Radio 4 Christmas and July Appeals

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| --- |
| 200 words |

**We want to tell your story**

The ability to highlight the impact of our funding through telling people’s stories, is vital to our fundraising here at St Martin-in-the-Fields Charity. This is especially important for our BBC Radio 4 Christmas Appeal, where the number of compelling stories (case studies) we provide directly relates to the amount of broadcast support we have, and the consequent amount raised. As a funded Partner you must be able to support us with this requirement. Please tell us how you will be able to supply fundraising content such as stories.

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| 200 words |