

Community Chest Application Summary 2017/2018

Local Authority	St Edmundsbury Borough Council
Organisation	Home-Start (Acorn House)
Amount Requested	£7,454
Total Project Cost	£125,735
Match Funding	£118,281
Partnerships	Coupal Court Manager and Amanda Jacques Home-Start Scheme Manager will have regular planning meetings.
West Suffolk Bid?	No

Key Points

- Home-Start Mid Suffolk (HSMS) aims to give support to families who may be struggling to cope with a variety of challenges including post-natal illness, disability, isolation, the demands of parenting young children, bereavement, various mental health difficulties and/or multiple births. Many parents with whom we engage struggle to cope with everyday tasks, and this in turn leads to unhappy children, or children who become at risk.
- This project has been developed from discussions with the young people that we are supporting at Acorn House, Bury St Edmunds.
- A volunteer would be assigned to the parent and they would support the parent with the re-housing bidding process, viewing the places, making sure they were more confident in moving on – helping the parent to make decisions and choices.

It has been agreed that Home-Start will become involved 6 weeks before they are due to leave and Home-Start will be part of the 'moving on' plan. The support package for will be as follows:

- Home-Start will help the parents to engage with their local communities – helping them feel that they belong
- Home-Start will help the family to start making steps in developing a healthy lifestyle for parents and children – looking at healthy diets, cooking and shopping and attending medical appointments
- Project start: **April 2017**
- Project end: **Ongoing**

**St Edmundsbury Borough Council
Community Chest Grant Application
Form
Part A**



Community Chest funding supports voluntary and community groups who make a contribution to improving the quality of life for people in West Suffolk. The information you provide will help us consider your application. If you have any questions, please give us a call on 01638 719763. Before completing this form, we ask you to please read the guidelines, which are available on: <http://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/community/community-grants.cfm>

Please return your completed, signed form and supplementary documents to: richard.baldwin@westsuffolk.gov.uk

1. Name of your organisation(s):

Home-Start Mid Suffolk

2. Organisation address details

Address Ln1	The Principal's House		
Address Ln2	Kerrison		
Address Ln3	Thorndon		
City/Town	Eye, Suffolk	Postcode	IP23 7JG
Main phone	01379 678552/ 224	E-mail	amanda@homestartmidsuffolk.org.uk
Website	www.homestartmidsuffolk.org.uk		

Main Contact Person		Second Contact Person	
Title	Mrs	Title	Mrs
Forename	Amanda	Forename	Angela
Surname	Jacques	Surname	Dennis
Role	Scheme Manager	Role	Business Manager
Daytime Tel No.	01379 678224	Daytime Tel No.	01379 678552
Mobile No.	07540 282074	Mobile No.	
Email	amanda@homestartmidsuffolk.org.uk	Email	angela@homestartmidsuffolk.org.uk
Address Details (if different from Org address)		Address Details (if different from Org address)	
Ln1		Ln1	
Ln2		Ln2	
Town		Town	
Post Code		Post Code	

About your organisation

3. What local authority area(s) does your organisation work in?

Suffolk: St Edmundsbury, Forest Heath and Mid Suffolk

*Community Chest funding is offered by both Forest Heath and St Edmundsbury councils. As the decision making process is different any projects applying for funding across West Suffolk, must apply separately.

4. What is the status of your organisation?

Registered charity	✓	Charity number: 1127760
Applying for charitable status		
Company limited by guarantee	✓	Company number: 6674059
Community Interest Company		
Part of a larger regional or national charity (Please state which one)		Home-Start UK network although independent charity status
Constituted Community Group		
Social Enterprise		
Other (Please specify)		

5. How many people are involved in your organisation?

Management committee	5	Service users	
Full Time staff / workers	4	Volunteers and helpers (non-management)	55
Part Time staff / workers	3		

6. What is the purpose of your organisation? Please briefly describe why your organisation was set up, its aims and objectives and who primarily benefits from your organisation.

Home-Start Mid Suffolk (HSMS) aims to give support to families who may be struggling to cope with a variety of challenges including post-natal illness, disability, isolation, the demands of parenting young children, bereavement, various mental health difficulties and/or multiple births. Many parents with whom we engage struggle to cope with everyday tasks, and this in turn leads to unhappy children, or children who become at risk. We strengthen families by helping parents to help themselves: to become happier, more confident parents, fully engaged with their children. This in turn improves the health and welfare of the children. We work by providing one-on-one support to families through our staff and volunteers, and through running Family Groups. All our support is designed to provide activities for families that may be at risk of escalation of needs. Our support helps to prevent difficulties from escalating into crises, and reduces the potential impact of these on the children. Our ethos is to help families with identifying their own goals, where they are now and how we can work towards achieving them. Often parents feel isolated and have difficulty finding or accessing services. We work to support parents and children to develop their social networks and support groups within local communities, many of which are rural and isolated. Each volunteer will visit a family in their home each week with co-ordinators supporting this work by regularly reviewing families, ensuring the level of support is appropriate and relevant in meeting the initial aims negotiated with the family. Our volunteers play a crucial role in the front-line delivery of our services.

7 What was your organisation's total income for last financial year? £225,110

8 What was your organisation's total expenditure for last financial year? £214,858

9 Does your organisation have more than six months running costs? **Yes**

10 What are your organisation's current unrestricted reserves or savings? £51,300

11 West Suffolk prioritises building resilient families and communities that are healthy and active. Please indicate which of the following areas your project contributes towards:

- A thriving voluntary sector and active communities who take the initiative to help the most vulnerable.
- People playing a greater role in determining the future of their communities.
- Improved wellbeing, physical and mental health.
- Accessible countryside and green spaces.

About your project – why are you applying for this funding?

12 What do you want the funding for? Please be specific. Please note that 'project' is meant to describe the project for which you are seeking funding,

We have just started working in partnership with Acorn House in Bury St Edmunds. We have, over the last few months, been supporting 3 young parents who are about to move out of Acorn House. Through working in partnership with Acorn House our Scheme Manager and the Centre Manager have highlighted that there is a need to carry on with the Home-Start support once the young people have moved in to their new accommodation in the community. It has been agreed that Home-Start will become involved 6 weeks before they are due to leave and Home-Start will be part of the 'moving on' plan. The support package for will be as follows:

- Home-Start support will enable the parents to take control of their own lives
- Home-Start will help the parents to engage with their local communities – helping them feel that they belong
- Home-Start will help the family to start making steps in developing a healthy lifestyle for parents and child/ren – looking at healthy diets, cooking and shopping and attending medical appointments

Home-Start volunteers are non-judgmental and offer a professional befriending service. Emotional support is very high on the agenda and the volunteers can often discuss things with parents whereas other professionals may not have been able to get the parents to open up. e.g. fear of statutory agencies, past history, worries, beliefs and much more. Home-Start volunteers can be a listening ear and help them articulate what it is they want to do with their lives.

The funding is needed to sustain this project so we can offer a seamless service and the clients of Acorn House see Home-Start as part of their 'moving on' package of support. To sustain this project, we need the funding to train more volunteers, to cover the volunteers' mileage, to offer a full and comprehensive home support service supporting parents to access local provision.

13. How has the project been developed out of the community's desire to improve the lives of local people? What evidence do you have that there is a need for this project? Please include sources of evidence, including any public/user/community consultation.

This project has been developed from discussions with the young people that we are supporting at Acorn House, Bury St Edmunds. From these discussions the young people have said it is very important to them to feel safe and have a place where they have a sense of belonging, to be in control of their lives and being able to support their family within a budget. The families have said how important it is to them to have a relationship with an outside agency. The volunteers have been helping families to look in to the future and articulate what they want from life – what they want to aspire to for themselves and their child/ren. From discussion with the Acorn House Manager it was decided that Home-Start could provide support for six weeks before the young families are signed off from Acorn House. This would be via a formal referral to Home-Start from Acorn House. From the referrals we are supporting at this present time at Acorn House, these parents have often come from a dysfunctional background and would benefit from support to understand their pasts. Some have not had the best start in life, they have been in foster care themselves, missed out on good parenting role models and find it very hard to trust professionals. An outcome of supporting these families before moving on has been the ability to build a trusting relationship between the volunteer and family and the volunteers have been able to feed back to Acorn House with the young parent agreement, any issues or problems the young parents might have. The young families have fed back and said that they are better prepared to move on after Home-Start support. In one case there was a change of support worker as the young person could not relate to her, after the change things have greatly improved and Children Services have closed the case. This family was under Child in Need. Home start is making a big difference to these young parent's lives.

14. How will the project help local people to support one another?

A volunteer would be assigned to the parent and they would support the parent with the re-housing bidding process, viewing the places, making sure they were more confident in moving on – helping the parent to make decisions and choices. The support would continue into the new home and for the following six weeks. This provision would then be reviewed and if the support was needed to continue we would offer another 6 weeks support. This would be regularly reviewed and six week 'blocks' of additional support may be necessary for some young families until the young person was confident and competent with the required skills to manage their home, finances and parenting competently.

The volunteer would look in to what other community services were in the area and if needed would attend with the young parent. This will reduce isolation and support both parent and child in developing social skills – most importantly for the child especially in preparing for school. For the parents who might need additional support due to learning disabilities, poor social skills, new to the area and no social network Home-Start will place the most appropriate volunteer with the family depending on the skills, personality and experience. Together the parents will gain confidence and build their self-esteem to be able to live and feel happy, safe and confident within their community.

Yes

If yes, please state the names of these groups and the nature of the relationship.

Coupal Court Manager and Amanda Jacques Home-Start Scheme Manager will have regular planning meetings. Within this meeting future referrals will be discussed and any new clients who may require Home-Start support sooner will be discussed.

There is also currently in place a system where volunteers submit reports to their Family Co-ordinator and have supervision on a six weekly basis which supports the work that they carry out with the family.

16 When will the project start? April 2017

17 When will the project finish? **Ongoing**

If this is an ongoing project, how will it be funded and continue going when the funding ends?

As our funding streams start to come to a close we will look at funding available at that time to carry on with this project. This will be in junction with Acorn house.

18 Which years funding are you applying for? 2017- 2018

19 How many people do you expect to benefit directly from the project on either a weekly, monthly or annual basis?

7 families weekly basis / more within group

20 What results (including targets/numbers) do you expect to see as a result of the funding and how do these relate to the Community Chest funding criteria? If your project is health related how does it improve health outcomes for residents within community networks and beyond?

The principles for this project follow similar principles as Home -Start. The need categories we monitor are parenting skills, children wellbeing, parent's wellbeing and family management. Within these headings we support the families to make a plan of what they feel their family needs are. To look at different ways to address any problems. We always make sure these are realistic and achievable. The volunteers help to build self-esteem and confidence and offers emotional support. Within this we encourage the families to form wider links with the community and services around them so that they reduce their isolation and become a member of their community. These all support them to look at their well-being.

Part of the journey with the family the volunteers undertakes is supporting their emotional needs, this is offering a listening ear. The families often discuss their past and any barriers they feel they have to overcome. This is part of them moving forward. The volunteers are non-judgemental and look at the whole family needs

21 What is the total cost of the project? £7,454

Please provide a full breakdown of the total cost of this project, including VAT if applicable along with any in-kind contributions such as volunteer hours.

Item or activity	Cost (£)
Home-visiting service:	
Family Co-ordinator salary costs	3671
Scheme Manager salary costs	153
Scheme Support Officer salary costs for monitoring and administration	172
On-going training contribution for volunteers and staff	350
Home-Start preparation course costs for 5 volunteers	1612
Volunteer mileage	1134
Marketing & materials	230
Home-Start fee for insurance, legal cover and organisation support	132
Total cost of items listed above:	7454

22 How much funding are you applying to us for?

£7454

23 What funds have you raised so far for this project?

Source	Amount (£)
This project comes under the banner of our pilot work in West Suffolk for the Stepping Stones Project. Stepping Stones is also funded by the Big lottery Reaching Communities Fund. Year 3 funding from the Big Lottery to be received in 2017-18	85,267
Community Chest main fund Bury St Edmunds and Forest Heath 2017-18	9,800
Royal British Legion	9,800
	13,414
Total fundraising:	118,281

24 What other funders have you applied to for further funding for the project?

Funder	Amount (£)	Timescale for decision
Raising the Bar	18,000	Submitted Sep 16'
Total:	18,000	

25 What other grants and contracts has your organisation received over the past year from either Forest Heath District Council or St Edmundsbury Borough Council?

Funder	Amount (£)	Reason for funding
Forest Heath District Council St Edmundsbury Borough Council	13,250 13,250	Home-visiting service in West Suffolk Districts
Total:	26,500	