



**Real Help for Communities:
Modernisation Fund**

Real Help for Communities: Modernisation Fund Grants Programme

*Helping the third sector
respond to the impact of
the recession*

www.modernisationfund.org.uk

Bursaries and grants for third sector organisations working with communities impacted by the recession

Is the programme right for you?

The funding is targeted at third sector organisations with an annual income of between £150k and £750k, which are wholly or primarily engaged in recession-related services under the themes of:

- well being and health
- advice, information and guidance
- loss of income, training and skills.

To help decide if Capacitybuilders' grants programme is right for your organisation, you should consider the following questions:

- Does your organisation benefit people affected by the recession?
- Could you work more closely with other organisations to:
 - increase your impact?
 - extend your reach?
 - generate more income?
 - reduce your overhead costs?
- Would you benefit from free advice to help you explore how your organisation can respond to the recession including whether collaboration or merger is right for your organisation?

Grant programme delivery

Phase One - Know your needs:

Workshops and self assessment:

- A free, online self diagnostic tool is now available at www.modernisationfund.org.uk
- From May, a series of workshops will take place across England to help organisations explore the impact of the economic downturn on their business and beneficiaries.

£1000 bursaries:

- From June, eligible organisations can apply for £1000 bursaries to pay for at least two days support from an adviser.
- Organisations will explore how they can increase their impact and become more resilient and will be encouraged to consider working together more closely with others including looking at whether collaboration or merger might be right for them.
- Simple online application www.modernisationfund.org.uk

Local delivery agents: To ensure effective delivery of the programme, a national network of local delivery agents will:

- run local workshops to provide information about the range of support and resources available to organisations delivering recession related services
- promote the Modernisation Fund Grants programme and signpost successful bursary holders to advisers in their region.

By the end of Phase One organisations will have a report with recommendations for their trustees/board to consider.

Phase Two - Grow together: From October 2009, grants of up to £10,000 will be available to help organisations buy the professional and specialist support and advice they need to make collaboration or merger happen, such as audit/accountancy fees to carry out due diligence work or legal fees associated with drawing up contracts, or other support critical to success.

Please note: Phase Two is not an open grants programme. Funding is dependant on organisations having a Phase One report that shows collaboration or merger is a viable option.

Other help available

As a separate part of the Modernisation Fund, Futurebuilders are offering loans of £30,000 and above to organisations with existing plans for collaboration and merger or who wish to take forward other activity to help prepare their business for difficult times.

Applications for Futurebuilders loans will largely be assessed by phone and are likely to be for:

- the cost of merging with other organisations
- collaborative working with other third sector organisations to deliver services or other collaboration aimed to increase efficiency
- introducing new processes and systems
- re-training staff

Please note: you cannot apply for both the grants and loans element of the fund at the same time.

Find out more about the grants and loans available under the Modernisation Fund, please visit:

www.modernisationfund.org.uk



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