



How do I fundraise for an individual cause?

Example: You may want to raise money to help a friend who has a serious illness, or to fund a gap year, or enable a carer to take a break.

All you may need to do is apply to a trust, foundation or established charity that awards grants or provides help to individuals. **GuideStar** is a new website that lists 167,000 charities in the England and Wales. It enables you to search for ones that may be able to help you. See: www.guidestar.org.uk. Other funding resources are listed in section 4.

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[A. What kind of organisation can I set up to raise funds?](#)

Registered Charities

By law, registered charities must be established for “public benefit”. The **Charity Commission**, the regulatory body governing charities in England and Wales, will only consider registering a charity if it is established for charitable purposes that benefit a “group” or “significant segment of the public”. Therefore, in order to successfully register a charity and take advantage of charitable tax benefits, you must ensure that the documents setting forth your charity’s “objects” or purposes, are clearly intended to benefit a community or significant group –e.g. all children in the UK suffering from a particular ailment or all carers in a specific geographic region, etc...It is advisable to consult the Charity Commission or a charity lawyer when making plans to establish a charity.

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However, you do not have to be a charity to fundraise and there are many ways you can raise funds for an individual.

Private trust

You can set up a private trust, which must have named beneficiaries. An accountant or lawyer can advise you and help you set up the trust. You will need to set up bank accounts and comply with regulations governing trusts.

Unincorporated body

An unincorporated body consists of a number of people who are bound together, usually by membership, and sometimes by a 'Memorandum of Association', for a specific purpose. A Memorandum of Association is a legal document that sets out your objectives, rules and obligations.

B. Which organisations can I approach for funding?

- A comprehensive list of resources for fundraising for individuals is available from: **FunderFinder** 65 Raglan Road, Leeds, LS2 9DZ. Tel: 0113 243 3008; fax: 0113 243 2966
<http://www.funderfinder.org.uk/personalsupport.php>
- [GuideStar](http://www.guidestar.org.uk), a new website lists 167,000 charities, trusts and foundations in the UK and Wales. See: www.guidestar.org.uk
- The reference section of your local library will probably have a copy of the Directory of Grant Making Trusts and Foundations or Guide to the Major Trusts, which outline funding requirements and deadlines. Grant making trusts and foundations will post you an application pack or you can usually download it from the organisation's website.
- The Directory of Scottish Grant Making Trusts is out of print but available online from the Scottish Council of Voluntary Organisations at <http://www.scvo.org.uk/scvo/Information/VolSecHome.aspx>
- Your local Citizen's Advice Bureau may be able to provide you with a list of local resources and fundraising sources. See "Useful contacts" in section 4.
- Your local Voluntary Service Council may be able to provide you with lists of trusts that will fund individual causes and help you access online databases of funders. The National Council of Voluntary organisation can point you to your local Voluntary Service Council. Call 020 7713 6161 or see: <http://www.askncvo.org.uk/>

[C. How do I find out about how to run a fundraising activity?](#)

Other types of fundraising you may want to consider are appeals for corporate donations, public appeals through publicity, house-to-house collections or static collection boxes, raffles, and sponsored events. The section "Fundraising Activities and Strategy" on the Institute of Fundraising's website www.institute-of-fundraising.org.uk contains ideas and advice. You may wish to join the Institute of Fundraising and learn about groups, activities and training in your area. Details can be found in the Membership section of the website.

To ensure you follow the law, be sure to read the **Codes of Fundraising Practice** on the Institute's website. The codes stipulate mandatory requirements and best practice for various types of fundraising. Should you decide you want to hire a fundraiser, the section "Information for fundraisers and model contract" will be helpful as will the section "Directory of Consultants" under "Directories and Contacts". Specific recommendations for running fundraising collections can be downloaded from the Institute of Fundraising's website (click here).

[D. Useful organisations and further sources of information](#)

Legal advice in setting up a trust

A helpful book about trusts and unincorporated associations is: "*The Voluntary Sector Legal handbook*" by Sandy Adirondack and James Sinclair Taylor, ISBN: 1 900360 72 1, published by the Directory of Social Change, 24 Stephenson Way, London, NW1 2DP Tel: 020 7209 5151. ISBN: 1 900360 72 1

Website: www.dsc.org.uk Your local public library probably has a copy in the reference section.

To find a charity lawyer please contact the

- Charity Law Association
Attn: Ros Harwood
c/o Rollits, Roundtree Wharf, Navigation Road, York, Y01 9WE
Tel: 01904 625 790
www.charitylawassociation.org.uk
email: admin@charitylawassociation.org.uk

For information about setting up a charity

- The Charity Commission (for England and Wales)
Tel: 0845 300 0218
e-mail: enquiries@charitycommission.gsi.gov.uk
www.charitycommission.gov.uk/supportingcharities/sculist.asp

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- Office of the Scottish Regulator (OSCR)
Tel: 01382 220 446
e-mail: info@oscr.org.uk
www.oscr.org.uk

Other useful contact details

- Institute of Fundraising
Park Place, 12 Lawn Lane, London, SW8 1UD
Tel: 020 78401000
Fax: 0207840 1001
e-mail: policy@institute-of-fundraising.org.uk
www.institute-of-fundraising.org.uk
- Association of Fundraising Consultants
Suite 316, Linen Hall, 162-168 Regent Street, London, W1B 4JN
Tel: 01582 762446
Fax: 01582 461489
e-mail: enquiries@afc.org.uk
www.afc.org.uk
- National Association of Citizens' Advice Bureaux
Myddelton House, 115-123 Pentonville Road, London, N1 9LZ
Tel: 020 7833 2181
www.nacab.org.uk
http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/contact_us/contactus/cita_offices.htm
- Community Foundation Network
Arena House, 66-68 Pentonville Road, London, N1 9HS
Tel: 020 7713 9326
Fax: 020 7713 9327
e-mail: network@communityfoundations.org.uk
www.communityfoundations.org.uk
- Association of Charity Officers
Unicorn House, Station Close, Potters Bar, Hertfordshire, EN6 3JW
Tel: (helpline) 01707 651 777
Fax: 01707 651 477
e-mail: info@aco.uk.net
www.aco.uk.net

For further information, visit www.institute-of-fundraising.org.uk or email policy@institute-of-fundraising.org.uk

About the Institute of Fundraising

The **Institute of Fundraising** is the professional membership body for fundraisers, working to promote the highest standards in fundraising practice and management. The **Institute of Fundraising's** mission is to support fundraisers, through leadership, representation, standards setting and education, to deliver excellent fundraising.

Committed to raising standards in fundraising practice and management, we engage with charities, Government, media, the general public and other bodies to positively influence the UK fundraising environment. We work to nurture the knowledge and standards of all those who undertake fundraising, offering an extensive range of training and networking opportunities.

The Institute represents over 4,500 fundraisers and 280 fundraising organisations, providing information and support services for Individual and Organisational members.

Contact information

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Please bear in mind that the Institute does not give professional legal or accounting advice, and while care has been taken with this briefing, you should seek advice before taking any actions or incurring costs.