HELP THOSE IN OUR COMMUNITY MOST AFFECTED BY THE PANDEMIC

Heart of Bucks is excited to launch our ‘Love Bucks’ campaign, which is all about helping those in our local community who have been most affected by the pandemic.

Charities and community groups across Buckinghamshire do so much for our communities – they are often the lifeblood our society. The ‘Love Bucks’ campaign will help these local not-for-profit groups to continue transforming lives in our county.

George Anson, High Sheriff of Buckinghamshire said: “The Love Bucks campaign will help Buckinghamshire communities get the support they need to recover from the Covid-19 pandemic. It has been a tough time for all of us and this is the perfect opportunity to show that you Love Bucks. Please help transform your local communities and the lives of those who need your support the most.”

Donations to ‘Love Bucks’ will make a difference in a variety of ways, such as:

- £12 could enable one child with special needs and living in poor socio-economic conditions to go and watch a theatre performance.
- £50 could cover the cost of hiring a hall, enabling an isolated group to meet up and socialise.
- £100 could pay for a tablet to connect an elderly person in a care home with their relatives.
- £250 could provide a wheelchair-friendly picnic table for a community meeting space.

If you love Bucks, why not give something back to Buckinghamshire today and make a donation? If you are a taxpayer, you can also Gift Aid your donation and instantly increase the value by 25%.

CLICK HERE TO SUPPORT LOVE BUCKS
‘Inspiring Buckinghamshire’ gives local people from a range of sectors a chance to share their knowledge and insights to help inspire others. Click a photo below to read more...

Sandra Ewers
Medical Secretary at Stoke Mandeville Hospital

"My hope for Bucks is that we will see a much greener environment, a less throwaway society and that we learn to appreciate what we have ... we need to value the simpler things."

Nick Coleman
Founder of Snaffling Pig

"I would love Bucks to embrace entrepreneurship as a career path early on. We need to give kids the confidence to fail and create a career path that isn’t the norm."

Hannah Asquith
CEO of Youth Concern

"In the voluntary sector we are so busy pushing forward that we don’t make time to reflect on how far we’ve come. There’s always so much more to be done and so few hours in the day!"

Georgia Grou
Community Health Officer at Wycombe Wanderers Sports and Education Trust

"If I come across challenging behaviours from others, I always remind myself that I cannot change how they are acting. But what I can change is what I do and how I react."

UK COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS LAUNCHES NEW REPORT

UKCF’s new report examines the impact of the pandemic on local Voluntary and Community Sector Organisations (VCSOs) and the communities they are based in. It looks at the practical steps that funders can take to ensure that their grant-making is responsive, effective and inclusive to local VCSOs. It also showcases some of the innovative work happening in the community foundation network.

The main conclusions of the report are:

• Community foundations are seeing a growing demand for the following services: food and essentials, mental health services, technology and IT, social isolation and domestic violence support services.

• Closures and decreased capacity of local VCSOs has resulted in an increased strain on statutory services, a reduction in volunteering opportunities and the loss of irreplaceable community provision.

• Funders can ensure that their systems and processes aren’t barriers to local VCSOs by supporting tried and tested good practice, providing core cost funding, taking a flexible approach to grant-making, encouraging collaboration rather than competition, and providing multi-year funding.

• The place-based community foundation model is enabling innovative grant-making programmes, ensuring local people have a meaningful say in how funding is allocated, and being adaptive to the different needs that the pandemic is creating.

• Using recommendations from organisations that received funding from UKCF’s BAME Infrastructure Fund, the report also sets out the practical steps that funders can take to ensure that their systems and processes are inclusive and accessible to BAME-led VCSOs.

CLICK HERE TO READ THE REPORT IN FULL
PARTNER WITH US FOR YOUR CHARITABLE GIVING

Did you know...?
We manage 45 separate donor funds

The fund sizes range from £10,000 - £2,400,000

We manage funds for:
- Individuals & families
- Businesses
- Public sector organisations
- Local charitable trusts

They are made up of:
- Immediate Impact Funds
- Long Term Endowments

Donations are awarded as grants as soon as possible, providing immediate support for local charities and community groups.

Donations are securely invested, with the annual income distributed as grants. Enabling a long-term commitment to supporting the local community.

One of the many strengths of Heart of Bucks is our ability to help personalise the method by which people give. With thousands of charities all doing great work in the county, giving through Heart of Bucks can enable you to support multiple causes and also to see the impact of your giving by funding specific projects with defined outcomes.

Here’s what some of our supporters help us to address...

“I want to encourage young people to improve their lives through making the best of their natural abilities.”

“One of our biggest concerns is those at risk of being made homeless.”

“We love the great outdoors and are particularly interested in environmental or horticultural projects.”

“We are passionate about helping children and young parents – particularly anything instilling a sense of achievement, increasing confidence or strengthening the family unit.”

“There are many elderly people living in rural areas and I would love to help them get out and socialise.”

If you’d like to know more about setting up a fund with us, please contact our CEO Henry Allmand:
henry@heartofbucks.org | 01296 330134
Youth Bank

Buckinghamshire Youth Bank primarily funds activities and projects that benefit vulnerable young people aged 12-19 years (and up to 25 years for young people with disabilities). The fund aims to give young people a voice within the community and young people from a wide range of backgrounds have an opportunity to be part of this panel, which offers grants of up to £2,000.

EOI deadline: TBC  Application deadline: TBC

Flood Recovery & Awareness Fund

Grants can be used to support capital, revenue and project costs and expenditure must relate to flood damage/prevention or awareness in the form of training or education. Grants of up to £5,000 can be applied for by Bucks voluntary and community groups that are charitable in purpose and town/parish councils.

EOI deadline: 25th August  Application deadline: 15th September

Help Us, Help You: Improving Cancer Outcomes

Working in partnership with the NHS, this fund supports not-for-profits to develop and deliver innovative and creative solutions to improve cancer outcomes, particularly for groups that traditionally have poorer health outcomes.

Grants of £1,000 to £7,500 are available,

This fund is currently ongoing and there is no application deadline.

Kop Hill Climb

Heart of Bucks provides grant funding from the proceeds of the Kop Hill Climb Festival. Priorities include: Princes Risborough and surrounding areas; projects that demonstrate social inclusion or need; projects which are new, or existing projects looking to expand their reach.

Please note: The staging of the KHC Festival will be kept under close review according to Government guidelines. This application process will be conditional on the event taking place this year.

EOI deadline: 13th October  Application deadline: 10th November

Green Schools Fund

This fund is open to primary and secondary schools and awards grants to support environmental projects initiated by the school’s students. Funding is for environmental improvement schemes or services which are designed to: Reduce waste, improve biodiversity, reduce litter, reduce energy consumption and/or enhance community transport.

Application deadline (no EOI required): 15th September

Green Community Fund

This fund is open to voluntary and community groups and awards grants for projects designed to improve the environment and/or public spaces for the benefit of residents. For example: educational projects, environmental improvement schemes, increasing biodiversity, reducing carbon footprint, improving sustainability and/or enhancing community transport.

EOI deadline: 25th August  Application deadline: 15th September

Heart of Bucks general fund

Made up of a number of private funds with different priorities, HoB General may be suitable if your project does not fit any of our other specific funds. Heart of Bucks always acts in good faith in working with our donors and carries out due diligence checks on the sources of funding we make available.

We award grants of up to £5,000 to a broad range of causes and welcome applications from both new and established groups.

EOI deadline: 25th August  Application deadline: 15th September
MEET OUR INTERIM CHAIR

As many of you will know, our current chair, Elizabeth Howe, has become Lord Lieutenant of Buckinghamshire. As such, we will be recruiting for someone new to lead the Heart of Bucks Community Foundation. In the meantime, I have been asked to act as interim chair, a request I was delighted to accept.

Before I tell you a little about myself, I wish to pay tribute to Elizabeth for her outstanding leadership over the past eight years. I really do not know how she finds the time to support so many local charities and organisations. Elizabeth is very generous with that time and her energy, enthusiasm and good humour will be greatly missed. Filling her shoes will be quite a challenge. That said, as Lord Lieutenant, she remains our President so our link is not severed entirely!

I have been a trustee at Heart of Bucks for a little over two years and interim chair for about six months. Before then, I was a police officer in London for 34 years and then Director of Investigations at what was then named the Independent Police Complaints Commission, until retiring fully just over five years ago. I have lived in Penn for nearly 30 years with my wife and three children and have enjoyed many a happy time here.

When I retired, I wanted to give some of my time to helping others and so when the opportunity arose, I applied to become a trustee.

It is a joy to be part of a team that cares so much about local communities. Every member of our staff wishes to contribute to that end and I am full of admiration for the work they do. Throughout the pandemic they continued to work from home to ensure that emergency coronavirus funds were distributed to those in need of support. An incredible £1.5m was allocated to Bucks-based organisations in 2020/21.

The future is not going to be easy. There is little doubt in my mind that more and more people and organisations will require financial support in Bucks. In order to do this, we need financial assistance from those who can afford to help. If you feel able then please do.

In the meantime, we will continue to work hard to ensure we reach those organisations and groups that most need help.

Best wishes to you all.

Moir Stewart

WE’VE PARTNERED WITH BUCKS COUNCIL TO HELP PREVENT MALE SUICIDE

’Saving Lives’ is funded by Buckinghamshire Council and supports projects that reduce the stigma and impact of suicide and increase the community-based support for those at risk.

The launch of this fund, which has now closed, came at the end of Men’s Health Week (14-20 June) which raises awareness of the health issues that affect men disproportionately and focuses on supporting them to gain the courage to get help. According to data from the Office for National Statistics, men accounted for three-quarters of suicide deaths in 2019 and men aged 45-49 years had the highest suicide rate.

Angela Macpherson, Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing, Buckinghamshire Council said:

“Talking openly about mental health is the only way we can break down barriers and reduce discrimination towards mental health illness.

With its emphasis on supporting men experiencing mental health illness, the Saving Lives fund will help improve awareness of the range of support available through communities and health services, increase mental health services and show people how to support loved ones who may be finding it hard to talk about how they are feeling.”

Grants of up to £15,000 were available for projects such as those that improve access to mental health services, help to educate and raise awareness of male suicide, transform or enhance dialogue about suicide or develop mental health services.

Trudi Scrivener, Ambassador for Health and Wellbeing at Heart of Bucks said:

"Modern life can bring with it many stresses and unrealistic expectations. Until recently, mental health has been a taboo subject, especially for men who are typically less likely to talk about how they are feeling. The Saving Lives fund promotes the importance of looking after our mental health and will help to fund essential community support for those at risk."

Angela Macpherson said:

"We are very grateful to Buckinghamshire Council for partnering with us on this important work to help reduce the impact of suicide and enable people to seek help."
A WARM WELCOME TO THE NEWEST MEMBERS OF OUR TEAM

Jake Gerra-Morrow
Development Support Officer
Jake helps the team to achieve Heart of Bucks’ marketing and development goals and objectives, as well as ensuring that our brand and image is promoted consistently. In addition to this, Jake is responsible for the design and creation of our social media content and also helps maintain excellent client relationships. Jake also assists with the professional and efficient delivery of our events.

Amanda Martin
Head of Development
Amanda has worked in fundraising and marketing roles in the not for profit sector in the UK and overseas for 30 years. In recent years this has included managing major fundraising campaigns for Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust, alongside consultancy work for education, medical research, heritage and membership organisations. Amanda is also the lead trustee for fundraising at two charities based in Bucks and trustee of a local grant-making trust. At Heart of Bucks she is responsible for managing and developing donor relationships.

Kate Faccini
Finance Officer
Kate joined the Heart of Bucks team in July 2021, bringing with her a range of experience in administration and finance from the corporate and charity sectors. She is responsible for our day to day financial transactions, including processing payments and donations, as well carrying out due diligence checks on grant applications.

FREE OFFICE FURNITURE AVAILABLE

Heart of Bucks is moving office and as a result, we have various pieces of office furniture looking for a new home. If you are a charity or small local business and are interested, a full list of the inventory is available to browse online via A Good Thing. Just filter by postcode (HP19 8FQ) within a one-mile radius. All of our office stock is free of charge and available for collection. However, as we are a charity, if you were able to make a small donation we would greatly appreciate it.

COMING SOON... MARLOW SANTA FUN RUN

We know it’s only August but we are delighted to support - for the very first time - the Marlow Santa’s Fun Run. The event is organised by the Rotary Clubs of Marlow - and has run (or walked) every year since 2004.

The event is now a key fundraising opportunity for local charities - and this year the organisers have been able to guarantee a pot of at least £5,000 to be shared by teams entering and then fundraising a minimum of £500 for their favourite charity. As you would expect rules apply - and the website goes live to entries on 1st September.

Teams can run in Marlow on the event day - or organise their own smaller runs to fit in with their own preferences. A great opportunity therefore for some intensive fundraising!

The site goes live on September 1st - so try www.santasfunrun.org next month. Time to start getting your thoughts together and plan a fun day on Sunday 5th December!
Click the image below to donate online

Follow us on social media

[Social media icons]