

Community Impact Bucks' COVID-19 Briefing #75

How to build a diverse charity board, free advice sessions & #FundAlerts

Short regular briefing from Community Impact Bucks

5th November 2020

Dear Sir/Madam,

With the start of the second lockdown today (see yesterday's [COVID-19 briefing](#) for guidance for voluntary organisations during lockdown), in this briefing we look at how to build a strong board of trustees, plus information on free legal advice and three new #FundAlerts.

BUILDING A DIVERSE CHARITY BOARD/ MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

As part of Trustees' Week (2-6 November) Community Impact Bucks has been [calling on Buckinghamshire residents](#) to help support their communities through the second lockdown by volunteering on charity boards.

During this week we have also been highlighting the need for more diversity on boards: did you know that only [41% of charity boards are representative of the communities they help](#), only [9.6% of trustees in 100 major UK charities](#) are from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic communities, and that there are very few young trustees - only [3% of trustees are under 30](#)? The pandemic has shown how important it is to have strong and diverse boards: unique skill sets help an organisation adapt quickly to change and, by including a broader range of ideas, boards can improve decision making and increase resilience.

If are looking to build a diverse charity board or management committee, we recommend you read these [5 key resources](#), and for tailored advice on how to refresh your board, book a free [one to one advice session](#).

Look out too for advice from members of the Buckinghamshire Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic Network which we will sharing over the coming weeks, including a great tip on how to promote diversity from member Iblal Rakha:

"... (charities) need to hold open days and reach out to institutions (mosques, temples, churches, charities) for the largest minority groups in their locales; these organisations can identify individuals or put the message out there for you."

NEW DATE: AN INTRODUCTION TO BOARD VOLUNTEERING WEBINAR

If you are considering volunteering on a board, are new to a trustee role, or are already volunteering on a board but would like a refresher, we are running a second webinar - *An Introduction to Board Volunteering* – on **19th November (10-11.30am)**.

We have had great feedback from participants who joined Diane Rutter and Michael Curth, one of Community Impact Bucks' trustees, at our first webinar yesterday: if you would like to find out about what is expected of a board volunteer, including your role and responsibilities, and what an effective charity looks like, book your place on the free webinar via [Community Impact Bucks' training and events](#).

FREE 1:1 LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE ADVICE

Do you need support with a legal or governance issue? You might be thinking about changing your constitution or legal structure, planning to register as a charity or perhaps have a question about a contract or lease. If so, sign up for a free 30 minute 1:1 advice session with [IBB Law](#), a local law firm with a specialist department for charities, via Zoom on 4 December 2020. For more information and to book, visit our [Training and Events](#) webpage.

#FundAlerts

New funds are opened up regularly; to keep up-to-date with the latest announcements and for support on all aspects of funding, visit our [COVID-19 Funding](#) webpages and read our [top ten tips on how to write a successful funding application](#).

Three new funds are highlighted below:

- **Funding to support communities hardest hit by COVID-19:** emergency grants from £10,000 to £100,000 are available to help charities giving direct support to vulnerable and disadvantaged groups continue their planned work to March 2021. Deadline for applications is 10 November 2020; for more information, visit [CAF Resilience Fund](#).
- **Funding to support communities experiencing social and economic disadvantage:** People's Health Trust is offering grants from £5,000 to charities, CICs and community groups for projects supporting communities of people with shared experiences, characteristics or common interests experiencing social and economic disadvantage. The fund opens for Buckinghamshire groups to submit Stage 1 applications between 11 November - 9 December. For more information, visit [People's Health Trust](#).
- **Funding for charities to create COVID-19 secure sport and activity settings:** grants of up to £10,000 and capital grants up to £50,000 are available through the Return to Play: Community Asset Fund for charities looking to adapt and open places and spaces for sport and physical activity. For more information, visit [Sport England](#).

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