

Community Impact Bucks' COVID-19 Briefing #85

Call for Thames Valley volunteer opportunities & #FundAlerts

Short regular briefing from Community Impact Bucks

21 January 2021

Dear Sir/Madam,

Find out about how to access volunteers through the National Probation Service, take advantage of the Google Ad grants for charities as well as details of several new funds, including grants to support digital activity.

JOB ALERT - DEADLINE EXTENDED TO 9AM ON 28th JANUARY

VCSE Health Partnership & Engagement Manager (PT) – do you enjoy building collaboration and alliances across sectors? Are you an experienced partnership manager with strong all-round project management skills? Hosted by Community Impact Bucks, this role will enable the VCSE sector in the Thames Valley (Bucks, Oxon, Berks West) to play a full role as an equal partner in the health and care system. [Find out more on our website.](#)

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES NEEDED

The National Probation Service South Central is keen to hear about any short or long term volunteer opportunities in the Thames Valley which would be suitable for its service users who are required to undertake unpaid work. If you are a volunteer-involving organisation and need volunteers to support projects such as gardening, decorating a new centre or marshalling an event, please contact Sue Gale, Head of Business Strategy and Change at NPS South Central (Sue.Gale@justice.gov.uk / 07999 153994).

GOOGLE ADS FOR CHARITIES: HOW TO GET STARTED THE RIGHT WAY

Google Ad Grants give charities access to \$10,000 (£8,000) worth of free Google Ads spend every month and tools to help you create, target, and optimise your campaigns. These ads appear next to Google search results when people search for non-profit organisations. Google has also made applications much simpler to navigate. Visit [Google](#) to apply for the Google Ad Grant and take advantage of the free monthly ad spend.

NATIONAL SPOTLIGHT ON COMMUNITY BUILDINGS

Next week we will be taking part in Village Halls Week, a national awareness week celebrating village halls, their volunteers and the services they offer. During the week we will be highlighting how Buckinghamshire's community buildings provide an essential resource for many local communities as well as the difficulties they have faced during the pandemic. If you manage a Community Building, have a look at [what is planned for the week](#) and tag us in any social media activity ([Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#)) so we can share your news.

#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](#).

- **New fund to help organisations develop digital solutions:** grants of up to £70,000 are available to help not-for-profit organisations develop digital solutions that meet a social need. Set up by Comic Relief and the Paul Hamlyn Foundation, the next round of the Tech for Good Build programme will fund 18 projects from June 2021, alongside access to technical support from experts provided by CAST. Deadline for applications is 12th February; for more information, visit [Comic Relief](#).
- **New grants for projects using technology in vocational learning:** VocTech Seed 2021 provides grants of £15k - £50k for early stage projects that use digital technology in vocational learning. The scheme funds projects that are at a relatively early stage, helping to prototype ideas and work out next steps. Deadline for applications is 11th February; for more information, visit [VocTech Trust](#).
- **Grants for businesses (potential for some charities and community buildings):** Local Restrictions Support Grants are open for applications for businesses that have had to close at different times due to changing tiers and restrictions, and have a rateable value. Some charities and groups may be eligible to apply - **please see Buckinghamshire Council's website for the latest grants available**. If your business has already applied for a Local Restrictions Support Grant since 19 December, you do not need to reapply. Organisations that may qualify for the Local Restrictions Support Grants [are listed on the GOV.UK webpage](#); community buildings and halls are eligible under 'Other venues subject to restrictions'. For more information, visit [Buckinghamshire Council](#).
- **Fund to support community business:** ReBoost is offering grants of between £3,000 and £5,000 alongside matched equity investment to support locally rooted, community focused charitable organisations to address social isolation, health, wellbeing, greater community cohesion, community pride and empowerment. Deadline for applications is 3rd February; for more information, visit [Power to Change](#).
- **Grants to support community art and social justice projects:** grants of up to £5,000 are available to charities and arts organisations which are working in partnership with creatives and artists on projects that have supported communities during the pandemic. The work will be premiered in the DISRUPT 2010 digital festival (8 - 9 July 2021) and must focus on community art, social justice and the pandemic. Deadline for applications is 30th January (12pm); for more information, visit [Guild Hall School](#).

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