



The North East Roots Fund

Bringing Opportunity Home





What is the North East Roots Fund?

The North East Roots Fund at the Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland enables those with a passion for the region to give back and support communities through local charities and community organisations like those highlighted in this brochure.

Whether you were born, educated, lived or worked in the North East, if you have an interest in the region's future, please consider a donation. Contributions to the Fund will be pooled to provide grants for community organisations across the region.

The Fund is designed to achieve community impact both now and in the long-term. Half of all donations will be directed to grant-making right away and half will be invested in our endowment to produce returns for grants in perpetuity.



What will the Fund do?

The Fund will provide grants to charities across the North East with a focus on three themes:

Pathways to opportunity: helping young people to find their passions and take up opportunities through funding education, skills, workforce and enterprise activities.

Essentials for thriving communities: backing community organisations focused on health, wellbeing and inclusion, as well as the provision of vibrant community spaces that bring people together.

Inspiring places and spaces: ensuring the environment, heritage and culture of the region are protected and nurtured for generations to come.



Why does giving back matter?

Creating opportunity is a top priority for the North East Roots Fund. While there is much to be proud of in the North East, there are many reasons why we should strive for better. For example, the region has:

- the lowest financial resilience in the UK with average household savings around 50% lower than in the South East
- the highest child poverty rate in the UK at 38%
- the highest proportion of people unable to meet bills or credit repayments.

In the face of such deep and persistent challenges, the North East has a significant and resilient charity sector, which is helping to close the gaps. The Fund will back the local organisations best placed to respond to community needs.

How to get involved

1. GIVE

Donations of all levels to the Fund are gratefully received. Anyone who pledges to give or raise at least £1,000 in the first year of the fund will be recognised as a member of our North East Roots Founder's Club.

With the support of generous donors, we can match donations received before the end of March 2024, making your gift go even further. To find out more about match opportunity, use the website link below.

2. JOIN

The North East Roots Fund is a network like no other. Sign up for updates and future events – stay in touch with others who share your passion for giving back to the North East.

Contact John Hollingsworth, Chief Philanthropy Officer: jh@communityfoundation.org.uk and follow the Community Foundation on LinkedIn, Twitter, Facebook or Instagram for updates.

3. SHARE

Help us expand the North East Roots network by:

- Spreading the word: we welcome introductions to people and businesses with a connection to the North East. Please send your suggestions to John Hollingsworth - jh@communityfoundation.org.uk
- Hosting an event: do you have a space where North East expats could meet? We'd love to work with you on hosting an event in support of the North East Roots Fund.



To donate now scan the QR code with the camera on your phone or go to:
www.communityfoundation.org.uk/northeastroots
for more on how you can give, join and share.



Apna Ghar Minority Ethnic Women's Centre works across South Tyneside to provide services for women of black and minoritised backgrounds from over 20 countries, mainly from Asian and Middle Eastern communities. It develops women's confidence and empowers them to recognise their full potential while maintaining their cultural identity. The organisation runs a wide number of courses and activities. They include fitness, a lunch club, a domestic abuse support group, English classes and courses in enterprise.

The Community Foundation has funded the charity's running costs. A recent grant is also supporting the provision of multi-lingual information, advice and guidance covering welfare benefits, utilities and bill-paying, access to health and social care and help with IT.



The Cedarwood Trust is a charity which provides information, education, training and leisure activities for people living on the Meadow Well estate in North Tyneside. From its community hub, it also runs a catering academy and cafe, and a discount food store.

The Community Foundation provided funding to help Cedarwood Trust's efforts to address climate change, which evidence suggests will most affect people living in the poorest communities. The Trust has been able to lease an electric van to collect donations of food and household goods, and to take freshly prepared meals out to vulnerable people across the borough. It has also installed a free-to-use electric charging point, the only one on its estate.



From bases in Stockton, Middlesbrough, and Hartlepool, **Community Campus 87** provides accommodation and support to 16-25-year-olds at risk of homelessness. Through its construction trading arm, the charity also renovates empty properties to create affordable accommodation using apprentices, placement students, helping the development of work and life skills. Community Campus owns 40 properties and helps over 100 people each week with housing and another 30 with training.

Recent funding from the Community Foundation has supported work with 25 young people in Stockton, including unaccompanied minors, to address challenges that they face around homelessness, cost of living and personal relationships.



Community Help and Neighbourly Care for Everyone (CHANCE) is a Sunderland charity that runs services including training and job searches, benefits advice, social groups, support for older people, and activities for children and young people. Its centre has a purpose-built creche, meeting room, kitchen, and space for other groups.

Support from the Community Foundation has enabled CHANCE to help some of the most isolated older and vulnerable residents of the city, many of whom are disabled or living with long-term illnesses. The charity has been able to work with residents in their homes, but also bring them to the centre to take part in activity groups, so reducing loneliness and building social networks. During 2022, 238 people benefitted from the activities on offer.





Based in the west end of Newcastle, **Healthworks Newcastle** is a charity which helps people from poorer communities in Newcastle and Gateshead to improve their health. It focuses on activities shown to make the most difference to wellbeing and life expectancy, like fitness, smoking cessation, cancer awareness, breastfeeding, ante-natal support, nutrition and life skills.

The COVID-19 pandemic disproportionately affected people in the region's poorer areas. A recent Community Foundation grant funded Healthworks' 'boogie bairns' and sensory stimulation sessions which helped 51 families with babies born during the pandemic who hadn't otherwise been able to access support outside the home.



Based in Wallsend, **LD:NorthEast** addresses health and social care for people with autism and learning disabilities. The charity works across North Tyneside providing social activities and living skills, and engages with police to combat hate crime and other issues people with learning disabilities experience due to their vulnerability.

The Community Foundation recently provided funding so LD:NE could transform an outdoor space and run gardening groups and health workshops for beneficiaries. The work has helped to improve participants' mental health, reduce loneliness and build social support. Vegetables, herbs and fruit grown are also supporting the charity's healthy cooking sessions.



North East STEM Foundation engages people across the region around science, technology, engineering and maths. Its core 'Future Makers' programme works with 9-15-year-olds to inspire and encourage them to consider a future STEM-based career. The programme is built with involvement from employers, parents, teachers and older students and it particularly engages young people from disadvantaged backgrounds and girls, who are under-represented in STEM jobs.

The Community Foundation has enabled the rollout of the Future Makers programme in Sunderland and County Durham where it has reached over 600 children and young people who have taken part in hands-on science experiments and other STEM learning with industry leaders.



NTC Touring Theatre Company is a professional theatre company focused on touring productions to rural and isolated audiences across Northumberland who could otherwise miss out on experiencing live theatre. Performances take place in village halls, community centres, and schools. The charity also provides on-the-job training for new theatre practitioners. It is based out of the Dovecote Centre in Amble, where it hosts a community cinema and provides workshops and meeting space.

Support from the Community Foundation has helped NTC put on its touring productions across the county. The Foundation has also funded the charity to provide paid traineeships for two emerging performers who took part in 36 performances over two months seen by nearly 3,000 people.



Skills 4 Work Gateshead helps young adults with additional learning needs from across Gateshead, many of whom have struggled with mainstream provision. It runs a job club and work placement programme with local businesses and supports people to look after their physical and emotional wellbeing and access financial help.

The Community Foundation has provided funding for the organisation's work over several years. Recent grants have allowed the charity to run weekly tutor-led employment support sessions to meet young people's needs, alongside support from Job Centre coaches and employers providing work experience.



Operating across the entire length of the River Wear, from Killhope in County Durham to Roker in Sunderland, the **Wear Rivers Trust** is a charity which works to protect wildlife habitats and water courses and raise awareness of what people can do locally to address global challenges of biodiversity loss and climate change. It works with other community groups, local schools, farmers, businesses and individuals.

The Community Foundation has provided pro bono support for the charity to help it recruit new trustees. It has also funded the Trust's activities including work with schools to achieve the John Muir Award, which encourages people of all backgrounds to connect with, enjoy and care for wild places.



Give: www.communityfoundation.org.uk/northeastroots

Join: jh@communityfoundation.org.uk

Share: #NERoots

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