



**Dorset
Community
Foundation**

Impact report 2019/20

Welcome to our Impact Report for 2019/20 which looks at the difference the grants made to local communities during the grant period and the outcomes achieved.

Headline figures



Total amount
awarded
£392,886.23



85 grants to groups
via 17 programmes
£310,206.73



327 grants
to individuals
via five programmes
£82,679.50

Individual grants include...



238 Surviving
Winter grants
£47,600



54 student
bursaries
£20,229.62



20 Lord Lieutenant Young
and Talented awards
£9,852



6 Dorset Performing Arts
Fund bursaries
£3,722



1 hardship
award
£1,275.88



Total beneficiaries supported **5390**



5063 supported by funded groups



327 supported by individual award



Average grant size to groups **£3,624**

70% of organisations funded have annual income less than £150,000

55% of organisations funded have annual income less than £100,000

40% of the organisations funded have annual income less than £50,000



Average grant size to individuals **£253**

Average bursary **£375**

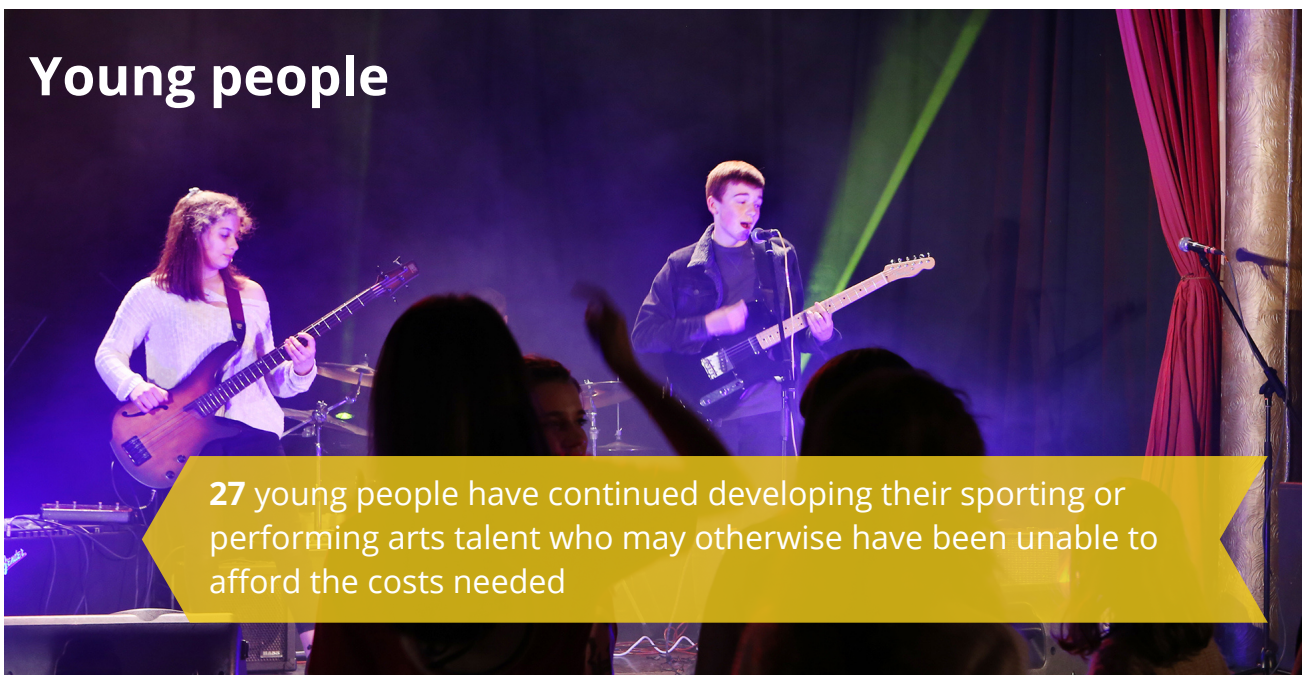
Average Young & Talented grant **£493**

Average Surviving Winter grant **£200**

Impact and outcomes

Disadvantage and poverty (2,274 beneficiaries)

Young people



27 young people have continued developing their sporting or performing arts talent who may otherwise have been unable to afford the costs needed



Older people

238 older people in fuel poverty have been able to heat their homes in order to decrease the risks of the cold on health and wellbeing

60 older people in fuel poverty were provided with advice and support to help keep them warm in winter, including grant applications and access to home improvement support, benefits checks and appeals



Financial hardship

1,573 people in financial hardship received emergency food supplies, including **400** supported during the Coronavirus pandemic

43 families in hardship received emergency cash grants to support them through the Coronavirus pandemic

30 people in financial hardship received hot meal services during the Coronavirus pandemic

1 individual received a grant to support home improvements due to financial hardship



Homelessness

275 homeless individuals benefitted from advice & information provided on the Street Support website

25 previously homeless individuals supported within sheltered accommodation

2 previously homeless individuals supported to achieve independent living

Work, education and training (640 beneficiaries)

Young people

- 243** young people participated in a Social Action project, developing new skills and confidence, improving employability and aspirations
- 80** disadvantaged young people took part in community activities and music technology training, increasing self-esteem, skills and employability
- 54** young people in financial deprivation have accessed vocational courses at college, decreasing risk of future unemployment
- 12** young people received awards from the Bournemouth & Poole College Arts Prize, supporting aspirations in arts careers
- 9** disadvantaged young people (excluded from school) took part in supported Maths and English tuition
- 8** young people in financial deprivation accessed STEM courses at college
- 2** young care leavers received employment support via a mentoring programme

Adults

- 50** single mums received support services to enhance employability and self-employment prospects, plus mental health support – during the grant period **22** gained sustainable employment
- 32** adults with multiple disabilities and mental health conditions participated in work experience placements, improving confidence and employability
- 23** adults received training to improve literacy skills, with benefits to quality of life and employability

Performing arts

- 87** organisations received training, mentoring & support to improve sustainability and social impact practice (social impact films created with 6 groups)
- 40** individuals received training & support for professional development including 5 trustees from arts organisations and 40 professional artists

Mental health and wellbeing (1,001 beneficiaries)



Young people

228 young people took part in community activities to improve mental health, and to help spot the signs of poor mental health and support others

138 young people received counselling services and report improved mental health, including 10 receiving specialist bereavement therapy

95 young people participated in programmes to address social issues, self-esteem and bullying, and report improved mental health

17 young parents participated in a facilitated support group with individual support where needed, and report improved mental health

14 young people and their families received online social activities to support mental health

Families

120 parents and children benefitted from counselling provided to parents whose children had disclosed abuse (committed by others)

24 families received information and advice services, to support mental health difficulties

15 parents with babies under 1 suffering from mental health difficulties (including post-natal depression) participated in a facilitated support group

5 lone parents and **17** young parents participated in facilitated support groups and report improved mental health

Adults

206 people participated in community activities to raise awareness of dementia and support efforts for Christchurch to become Dementia Friendly Town

80 vulnerable and disadvantaged women participated in social & therapeutic/counselling activities and report improved mental health

30 people in recovery from addiction received support services to develop and maintain healthy lifestyles

21 people took part in an eco-therapy gardening group and 10 received other support services as a result

8 ex-offenders received supported training opportunities and report improved mental health

Loneliness and isolation (1,475 beneficiaries)

Rural isolation

140 vulnerable and older people in North Dorset received meal delivery services during the Coronavirus pandemic

55 children and young people in a rural town take part in community activities, including 5 young leaders

30 people from a rural town had access to support services via a community hub

Older people

565 older people received support services to reduce loneliness and isolation, benefit health and wellbeing and support independent living; activities, meal services, befriending, advice and information, practical tasks in the home, exercise classes and accessible transport



Isolation due to other circumstances

105 families in crisis received bespoke, long term support to cope and move out of crisis
35 individuals participated in a facilitated support group and social activities for families effected by ASD and social anxiety

23 young carers took part in social and respite activities

16 people with multiple disabilities took part in social activities

35 individuals participated in a facilitated support group and social activities for families affected by ASD and social anxiety

Performing Arts for community cohesion

506 people participated in performing arts projects which enhanced community cohesion and enriched community life

Impact on organisational development (sample of 50 groups)

44% of groups said grant enabled them to recruit new staff or volunteers

34% said grant helped them to raise funds from other sources (a total of £649,140 was raised by 17 of the sample groups)

48% said grant helped develop new relationships or partnerships

40% said grant helped raise awareness

36% said grant helped improve future planning, management or governance

32% said grant helped consult with beneficiaries

32% said grant helped provide training for staff or volunteers

Comparison to 2018/19

We distributed slightly less funding than in 18/19; a decrease from £413,234.07 to £393,786.23. Total beneficiaries supported thereby also decreased from 6313 to 5390. (This total does not include 2675 additional beneficiaries who benefitted from performing arts as audience members)

The size of the groups we supported rose slightly, largely due to repeat funding many organisations who have grown in the last year, although it is still the case that over half of the organisations we funded have annual income less than £100,000 (in 18/19 closer to two thirds were this size)

Three programmes delivered in 18/19 via UKCF contacts were not repeated; Building a Stronger Britain Together, Comic Relief, MARS GoodnessKNOWS

We introduced six new funding programmes by working with new local fundholders: Change for Good Fund, Dorset Chamber Life Skills Fund, Dorset Performing Arts Fund including Dorset Performing Arts Bursary, Designs for Humanity Fund and The Gladys Watson Fund

Our feedback

"The handling of the application process has been good throughout and we all appreciated the flexibility shown given that this is the first round lessons have been learned on all sides and issues were addressed as they arose."

"The application process is complex and challenging but fair. The office was always really helpful when it came to getting support and advice."

"Thank you for your incredible support over this period. There has been a careful understanding of our needs and invaluable recommendations made. We couldn't have done it without you."

"I have always found Dorset Community Foundation supportive and helpful. The grant application and reporting process is easy to complete online and responses have always been quick and informative."