

HENRY SMITH FOUNDATION

Shout! Funding



Easy Read Guide

1. Shout! Information about what our funding is



Our Building Independence Plan is all about making sure young people get the right support, in the right place and when they need it. You can read about our plan here:

www.henrysmith.foundation/strategy/building-independence/



The Shout fund is here to make sure young people are heard, even when the world does not listen.



This fund wants to support non-statutory organisations. This means voluntary advocacy services that help young people:

- speak up
- make informed choices
- understand their rights



You can tell us about the type of work you do to support people, such as one-to-one work, group or peer advocacy, as long as it meets our aims for this funding. Read the part 2 of this guide to see if your organisation can get this funding.



Our main aim of this fund is to help and support young people aged 14-25 to become more independent.



We know that some services are flexible. If you support people not in this age range and you apply for this grant, you will need to tell us about the issues people face and how you support people to meet their needs.



We want organisations who work with the following groups to apply for this grant.



LGBTQ+ – We would like organisations who work with young people who identify as LGBTQ+ to apply for this grant.



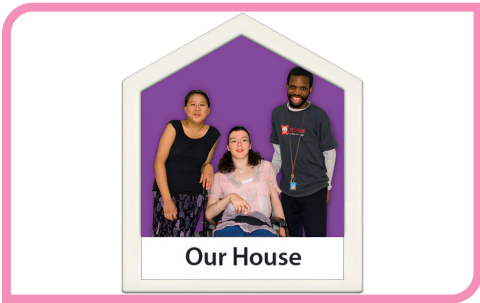
Learning Disability and Neurodivergence – for example ADHD, Dyspraxia, Dyslexia, Autism. We know that not everyone has a formal diagnosis of a learning disability or neurodivergence.



We welcome applications from organisations that offer support without needing a diagnosis and work in a person centred way.



Care Experience – We would like organisations who support young people who may have been in care to apply for this grant.



When we say care, this could also mean in foster care, residential care, kinship care; this means living with other family members; or children and young people who have left care.



We know that sometimes being in care isn't always put on a record. So if your organisation supports young people who are not recorded as being in care, you can still apply for this grant as long as you support people in the groups above.



If you work with lots of people in the community, as well as one of the groups above, you can still apply for this grant.

2. Our Key Points of Advocacy



We want to fund organisations that help people do the things below. We call this “advocacy” but you might use another word. If you are not sure if your service fits this fund, please get in touch with us.



- **Person-led** – your organisation supports the person to say what they need you to help them with. You work with them, you do not speak over them or for them - unless that's what they want or need.



- **Forward-focused** - Your organisation supports young people to work on goals that matter to them. This might be finding a home, building confidence, or challenging something you don't agree with.

Your organisation should show how you achieve different goals for the young people you support.



- **Independent** – This means your organisation does not work for any other organisation. You put the persons rights, choices and wishes at the centre of your work.



- **Support individuals with rights, decisions, and systems** - Helping young people to:
 - Understand their options
 - Access the right services
 - Be part of decisions about their life
 - Challenge unfair treatment
 - Speak up about what matters to them



- **Self-improvement** – your organisation supports people through one-to-one work, group sessions, peer support or self-advocacy. Your service builds people's skills and confidence. You can show what children and young people need now and in the future.



- **Accessible and inclusive** – The support your organisation gives is centred around the person's own communication needs, cultural background, and lived experience.



- **Regular engagement that isn't time-limited** - Your organisation supports people all the time and the support you give doesn't end. Your organisation supports people to have good and trusting relationships.

3. Who can apply?



This funding is for organisations that offer independent, person-led, non-statutory Advocacy. Non-statutory means, while we do need this advocacy, it is not needed by law.



We are not able to fund services that only offer:

- Peer support groups
- Mentoring or befriending services
- Information, advice and guidance (IAG) services
- General services that are not about rights or are not person centred.



Your organisation also has to be:

- A registered, not-for-profit organisation with a charitable purpose (e.g. registered charity, community benefit society).
- Registered for at least 18 months and be able to provide us with a copy of your yearly accounts.



- A smaller organisation with no more than £5 million in your account.
- Set up in the UK and the fund can only be for people who live in the UK



We cannot give you a grant that is more than half of your running costs.



If you already have funding from The Henry Smith Charity, you can still apply, but you will need to speak with your grant manager first.

4. How to apply?

Application Timeline



1. How we decide if you can apply for the grant. We will ask you some questions about your organisation and we will check if your organisation fits what we are looking for. Fill out our quiz from **Wednesday 23rd July 2025**.



2. Expression of Interest
If the quiz says your work fits with the Shout! fund, you can then fill out an expression of interest form. It tells us why you would like to apply for this grant. You have until the **20th August 2025** to do this.



We will then ask 40 organisations to fill out the full application form. We will tell you if we would like you to do this by **Friday 5th September 2025**.

October

6

3. Full Application

If we ask you to fill out a full application, we will want to know more about your work, what you do, and how you change people's lives. You will need to send us your full application by **12pm (Lunch time) Monday 6th October.**



4. Call

You'll have a chat with a person from our team. We will talk to you about your work and ask you about your Safeguarding plans and policies. We will call people in **October and November.**

November

30

5. Grant Awards

We will give 20 organisations funding. We will tell you if you have or have not got funding by the **30th November 2025.**

More about how to apply:

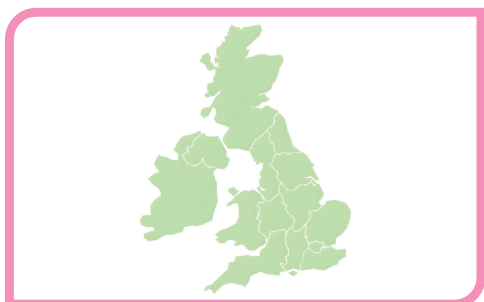
What we are looking for in an Expression of Interest



- We want to hear how you work with people from one or more of our priority groups. We also want to know how your work fits our key points of advocacy.



- We want to hear how you put people at the centre of your work.



- We are looking for organisations from across the UK. We would also like organisations from Northern Ireland, Wales, and rural communities to apply.

What we are looking for in a Full Application



If you are asked to fill out the full application, we will look more closely at your organisation and what you would like to do with the money we give you.



1. Who you work with and why it matters - We will want to know:

- Who you support
- How people's voices run your organisation
- What challenges young people face and how you support them
- What the challenges are nationally and why things need to change.



2. Your approach to advocacy and inclusion - we will want to know

- How you support young people and help make sure people feel safe and welcome.
- How your service works with people to meet their needs
- Who does the work and what experience, skills and knowledge they have



3. Governance, voice, and leadership - We will want to know:

How people with lived experience help change your organisation, including your services, direction, and leadership. How communities and the people you support are at the centre of your work.



4. Outcomes and impact - We will want to know

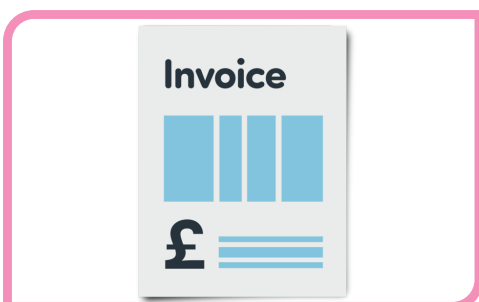
- How you know that what you are doing is working
- What difference it has made
- How you change things based on what people tell you
- How would this funding make a difference to your organisation and the people you support.

5. Funding

Funding - How much money can you apply for



We want to give around 20 grants. You can apply for up to £240,000 over four years (up to £60,000 per year).



We are happy to fund core costs, including rent, bills and for your staff to be paid. We believe that fair pay is an important.



After a grant is awarded

We want to work in partnership with the organisations who get grants.

We will:

- Give you a call once a year
- Visit your organisation to find out more
- We will invite you to be part of our Community of Practice – where we bring groups together to share skills, ideas and information and support each other.



Other funding:

We will also give more funding to help organisations promote advocacy and show why it matters.



Organisations don't have to be part of the community of practice, but if you do join it, we will offer funding to do this.

6. More information?



If you have any questions, please look at our Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs), which you can find [\[here\]](#). Please read this before applying.

Webinar



You can join a webinar on the Shout! Grant Programme on the 22nd of July 2025. We will talk about the funding and you can ask us questions. To register, please go to [\[insert URL\]](#)

Get in Touch



If you want to talk to us before sending us your Expression of Interest:

- You can call us on 020 7264 4970
- Or complete a callback request, and a member of our team will get in touch.
- If you have a specific question and prefer to write to us, feel free to email us at buildingindependence@henrysmithcharity.org.uk

We are happy to talk through your plans and help you understand if this programme is the right fit for your organisation.

Accessibility Support

We want this to be accessible to everyone.

If you, or someone in your organisation, needs support to fill out an Expression of Interest or full application because of a disability, neurodivergence or other needs, we can help.



This easy read was created by Speakup Self Advocacy for The Henry Smith Charity. July 2025. Graphics and Photos by Photosymbols

