

Some examples of recent grants we have made:

➤ **Grants are subject to available funds and current demands**

- £249 for a washing machine for a family who could not afford to buy one due to cost of living
- £217 for a sofa bed for a carer to sleep on.
- £240 for an exercise bike as the applicant was unable to leave home to the gym.
- £234 for a double bed and mattress for an applicant who had been given a property after a period of homelessness.
- £400 for white goods for an applicant who had moved to the city due to fleeing domestic abuse.
- £456 for a cooker to a large family whose previous one had broken down and they were having to rely on a microwave and takeaways.

If someone wishes to apply to the Fund for advice or to request an application form they may contact the clerk using one of the following methods:

Email traceyatgrisf@gmail.com

Post Tracey Bennett,
Clerk to the Trustees,
Gloucester Relief in Sickness Fund,
85 Sapperton Road
Gloucester.
GL4 6UN

Telephone 0776 586 4460

There are seven Trustees who manage the Fund with the help of the Clerk. All Trustees live locally and have worked in the Gloucester community for many years and bring a wide range of skills to make decisions on all applications and the work of the Fund.

GLoucester RELIEF IN SICKNESS FUND

Registered with the Charity
Commission – No. 243548

Website

You can download an application form from our website and the guide to completion at:

www.gloucesterreliefinsickness.org.uk

As the name suggests we are only able to help any person who is resident in the City* and who is both sick and suffering from financial hardship.

**The Trust Deed dictates that any beneficiary must reside within what was the city boundary in 1969.*

All applications to the fund must be supported by evidence of poor health, together with details of family income and expenditure.

Most people therefore find it easier to ask a representative of a recognised local support organisation such as a social worker, health visitor or occupational therapist etc. to assist in the preparation of the claim.

That person will usually be fully aware of the applicant's circumstances and therefore be able to better provide the necessary written evidence to support it.

The Trustees will also require confirmation that the applicant is either not entitled to state benefits

or that the benefits received do not fully meet their needs.

The grant made by the Trust will usually be made payable to the supporting organisation which will arrange purchase of the items for which the applicant has applied. Alternatively payments may be paid direct to the supplier of the service or goods required. Payment will not normally be made payable direct to an applicant.

Most of the local organisations which work with the Trust will have application forms but if applicants need to obtain their own form before approaching an agency, they may request one by contacting our clerk as indicated on the back of this leaflet.

The Trustees meet every month, usually on the second Monday.

The aim is to determine all applications within one calendar month of the date on which a completed application is received.

In a typical year we would expect to receive some 50 to 60 requests for

help. The grants awarded total approximately £12000.

The grants identified above covered, amongst other things, the provision of furniture, kitchen appliances, bedding and bankruptcy fees, where the applicants had got into major debt following serious illness. However, the fund also contributed towards house maintenance and heating expenses.

The reason for rejecting a few of the applications was that, in the opinion of the Trustees, the evidence provided on behalf of the applicant failed to meet either the health or the financial criteria of the fund or that the applicants were living outside the scheme area.

Further information may be gained by visiting our website:

www.gloucesterreliefinsickness.org.uk