

Grants and other sources of funding

We have put together a list of funders that carers can contact regarding financial support for themselves and the people they care for. We have also included some search tools you can use to find other charities and benevolent funds. The list is by no means exhaustive but it may be a useful starting point for you in your search for funding.

Search tools

Turn2Us: a free service that helps people in financial need to access welfare benefits, charitable grants and other financial help – online, by phone and face to face. The website features a free and easy to use grants search and benefits calculator. www.turn2us.org.uk

A Guide to Grants for Individuals in Need: this book contains details of over 2,000 trusts and charities. Each entry includes eligibility information, the type of grant given, contact details and how to apply. It is available from the Directory of Social Change at a cost of £95: <https://www.dsc.org.uk/publications/> (under 'Specialist Sector' section).

Alternatively you can subscribe to the website www.Grantsforindividuals.org.uk to search online for funders.

Disability Grants: this website has details of a variety of charities and trusts which give out grants to disabled people and their families and carers. www.disability-grants.org

Grants available from Carers Trust

Carers Grant Fund for individual adult carers, aged 16+:

Carers can apply for grants of **up to £300** for items or activities that will **benefit them in their caring role** e.g.:

- Breaks for carers, with or without the person they care for
- Items for the home including cookers, fridges, beds, washing machines etc.
- Courses and materials to develop carers skills and personal development
- Home repairs
- Short term or time limited replacement care
- Driving lessons and other travel costs relating to caring roles

Carers Trust

Carers can apply to these Funds through their local Network Partner (Carers Trust's network of Carers Centres and Crossroads Care Schemes). Application forms are available from the Network Partner and a member of staff from the Network Partner will need to complete a supporting statement on the carer's behalf. You can find contact details of your local Network Partner here on Carers Trust's website: <https://www.carers.org/carers-services/find-your-local-service>

Please bear in mind that not every carer will be able to apply for these grant funds, due to there not being a Network Partner in their area or because the Network Partner can only apply for a limited number of the grants and they are already over-subscribed with requests. If you are not eligible to apply for the Carers Trust grant funds, please find a list of other possible funders below.

Other charities that support carers or the person in receipt of care

Some of the charities and trusts listed below will have specific grant funds for carers. Others don't but may help towards the cost of essential household items, equipment, breaks, etc. for the person in receipt of care which will in turn benefit the carer.

The Family Fund: The Family Fund helps families across the UK who are raising a disabled or seriously ill child or young person aged 17 or under. They will look at any grant request that relates to the needs of a disabled or seriously ill child or young person and their family. In particular essential items such as washing machines, family breaks or equipment for college or school. <http://www.familyfund.org.uk/>

Family Action: Family Action's grants programme primarily provides grants for essential personal and household needs to assist families and individuals with low incomes, particularly those living on benefits. In addition funding is available for disability aids that will benefit the applicant in the home and to provide recuperative holidays for women who are resident in greater London. Family Action do not accept applications directly from individual members of the public but applications can be made by a suitable referring agency e.g. statutory agencies or charities (including carers' services), that provide health or social care; housing associations; probation services and GP's. <https://www.family-action.org.uk/>

The Respite Association: provides funding towards the cost of respite breaks. www.respiteassociation.org

Macmillan Cancer Support: Considers grant applications from people with cancer for items such as washing machines and other essential household equipment, fares to and from hospital for treatment, and heating bills. www.macmillan.org.uk

The ACT Foundation: ACT provides grants to individuals and other charities, with the aim of enhancing the quality of life for people in need, particularly those with

Carers Trust

mental and physical disabilities. They can help towards the cost of equipment and respite breaks. www.theACTfoundation.org.uk

Independence at Home: Helps people with physical disabilities and mental health conditions and their families and carers with essential equipment, breaks, home repairs and more. www.independenceathome.org.uk

MS Society: the MS Society has two grants funds; a Carers Grant Fund which can help with requests from carers of people with MS associated with leisure, recreational activities and personal development and a Health and Wellbeing Fund for people with MS which provides grants towards a range of items and services including essential equipment, breaks and household items. www.mssociety.org.uk

MND Association: Helps towards the cost of essential items, equipment, respite breaks and a range of other items and services (including transport costs for carers) for people with Motor Neurone Disease and their families and carers. www.mndassociation.org

Family Holiday Association: Helps families with a child between 3 and 18 who are on a low income and have not had a holiday for four years to have a break. <http://www.familyholidayassociation.org.uk/>

Ogilvie Charities: Funds breaks for carers through the Margaret Champney Rest and Holiday Fund and essential household equipment through the Straitened Circumstances Fund <http://www.ogilviecharities.org.uk/>

Vitalise: A charity that provides respite care in a holiday setting for disabled people with or without their carers. People can apply for grants towards the cost of a break at one of the Vitalise Centres from the Joan Brander Memorial Fund: [Joan Brander Memorial Fund](#)

www.vitalise.org.uk

The Lawrence Atwell Charity: Aims to assist young people who come from a low-income background to become qualified or equipped to work in their chosen career. It provides grants (up to £1500) or loans for young people aged between 16 and 26 towards the cost of vocational training or equipment that is essential for work. Applicants may receive a one-off award or a series of payments across the duration of a course of study. <https://www.skinner.org.uk/grants-and-trusts/atwell/>

Motability: As well as providing vehicles, including maintenance and insurance costs, through the Motability Scheme to people in receipt of the higher/ enhanced-rate mobility component of DLA/PIP, Motability can also provide charitable grants towards the cost of driving lessons, car adaptations, and advance payments on vehicles through the Motability Scheme. You can find out more about the charitable

Carers Trust

grants available through Motability by calling this number: 0300 456 4566 or on their website: <https://www.motability.org.uk/>

The Skinners' Benevolent Trust: Provides crisis grants of up to £250 for individuals and families to assist towards purchasing essential household items. Applications will be accepted on behalf of the applicant from support agencies such as social and support services, housing associations, refuge and rehabilitation organisations, and local charities (including carers' services). Applications can only be made on behalf of clients who live in areas where the Skinners' Company has existing work or historical links. These are:

- The City of London (The Square Mile only)
- The London Boroughs of Camden, Enfield, Hackney, and Hounslow
- West Kent (Particularly Tonbridge and Tunbridge Wells)
- Romney Marsh (Kent only)

<https://www.skinners.org.uk/grants-and-trusts/skinners-benevolent-trust/>

Friends of the Elderly: People of state retirement age and living on a low income in England or Wales are eligible for grants towards the cost of the following:

- Home essentials – to cover the cost of replacing everyday items, small home repairs and mobility adaptations.
- Digital connection – can be used towards the cost of equipment, such as tablets and smartphones, as well as broadband costs.
- Financial support – to help with unexpected bills and large costs, such as utility bills, funeral costs or moving fees.

Applications need to be made through a referring agent. This can be someone working in local health or social care teams, the Citizens Advice Bureau, or other charities and community groups (including carers' services).

Benevolent Funds

Depending on where you or family members work or have worked in the past, you may find that additional help and support is available from specific benevolent funds. There are hundreds of benevolent funds across the UK. These can be linked to trades, professions, unions, geographic localities or any of the armed services for example. Usually they have been set up to provide financial support and practical assistance during difficult times, and many could be of significant help to carers.

Perennial: A charity dedicated to helping people who work in horticulture when times get tough. Provides free and confidential advice, support and financial

Carers Trust

assistance to people of all ages working in, or retired from horticulture.
<http://perennial.org.uk/>.

GroceryAid: GroceryAid is the trading name of the National Grocers' Benevolent Fund (NGBF). There is a wide range of guidance and support available at GroceryAid including legal advice, housing, personal and family work and career, benefits, money and debt. <https://www.groceryaid.org.uk/>.

Chartered Accountants' Benevolent Association (CABA): CABA provides advice and practical support to current and former ICAEW chartered accountants and their families including ICAEW chartered accountants, retired ICAEW chartered accountants, spouses & life partners, active ACA students and those living overseas. Available to provide support, guidance and financial support if needed.
<http://www.caba.org.uk/>

Royal Merchant Navy Education Foundation: Provides funding for the educational needs children of Merchant Navy seafarers, professional sea-going fishermen and RNLI lifeboat crew members, who have served or are serving at sea and who are unable to meet their children's educational needs. Help is provided that 'enables education' - which could be anything from school fees, textbooks or uniform, right through to computers and internet access: <http://rmnef.org.uk/>

The Benevolent (for the drinks industry): The Benevolent exists to support members of UK drinks industry facing a variety of difficult circumstances including serious illness, disability, debt or family crisis. The Benevolent's mission is to help colleagues from the trade facing serious medical or financial hardship or any other workplace or home difficulties. The charity supports employees from every sector of the drinks trade. <http://www.thebenevolent.org.uk/>

The Licensed Trade Charity: The Licensed Trade Charity helps people who work or have worked in pubs, bars and breweries when they are in need of help. They offer practical, emotional and financial support. For more information on financial support that may be available call 0808 801 0550 or have a look at their website: <https://www.licensedtradecharity.org.uk/>

Hospitality Action: Offers vital assistance to all who work, or have worked within hospitality in the UK and who find themselves in crisis. The charity supports people with life-altering illnesses, experiencing poverty, bereavement and domestic violence and those who have retired from the industry who may be isolated. People can apply for grants for a range of things including essential items, food, equipment and central heating. Hospitality Action is very keen to support carers and have already helped several carers with a background in the hospitality industry through a partnership with Carers Trust. <http://www.hospitalityaction.org.uk/about-us/our-background/>

Carers Trust

Architects Benevolent Society: The Architects Benevolent Society is the only registered charity in the UK dedicated to helping architects, assistants, technologists, technicians, landscape architects, and their families, in times of need. They help people of all ages who have experienced illness, accident, redundancy, unemployment, bereavement or other personal misfortune. Support ranges from confidential advice to financial assistance. <http://www.absnet.org.uk/>

Bakers Benevolent Society: The Bakers' Benevolent Society is an Almshouse Charity that provides sheltered accommodation in Epping and Essex. They provide housing, care and support to the retired people of the Baking Industry and its Allied Trades. It employs professional staff with the qualifications and experience to carry out their jobs in a caring manner. <http://www.bakersbenevolent.co.uk/>

PRS for Music Members Benevolent Fund: The PRS for Music Members Benevolent Fund provides financial help and advice to PRS members experiencing hardship due to illness, accident, disability or conditions associated with old age. They offer cash grants to deal with a crisis, help towards essential living costs, free specialist medical assessments as well as financial and debt management. [PRS for Music Members Benevolent Fund](#)

The British Jewellery, Giftware and Finishing Federation Benevolent Society: The British Jewellery, Giftware and Finishing Federation Benevolent Society financially assists individuals that have worked within the giftware, jewellery, surface engineering and travel goods and fashion accessories industries. The Benevolent Society helps those in need by giving regular grants, providing essential items such as cookers, fridge freezers, bed linen and television licence fees and in some cases interest free loans are granted. <http://www.batf.uk.com/en/benevolent-society/>

Market research industry: The MRBA provides financial help, advice and assistance to anyone who works or has worked in market research (including market researchers, interviewers, recruiters, office staff and independents in the market research industry) and to their immediate families. MRBA supports those who need help with debt, or other financial assistance brought on because of an injury, illness, bereavement, carer responsibility, or other personal issue. <http://www.mrba.org.uk/>

The Solicitors Charity: SBA The Solicitors' Charity is an independent charity working for solicitors both past and present and their families. They help people of all ages who are in serious financial need as a result of illness, accident, redundancy or other adversity. They provide grants, interest-free loans, support with career transition and access to bespoke personal insolvency advice. <http://www.sba.org.uk/>

SSAFA (Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association): SSAFA is the umbrella Forces charity supporting both Regulars and Reserves in the British Army,

Carers Trust

the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force and their families, including anyone who has completed National Service. Financial, housing and educational support can all be accessed through SSAFA and its local branches. <https://www.ssafa.org.uk/>

RAF Benevolent Fund: The RAF Benevolent Fund supports people who are currently serving, or have served, in the RAF and their families. They provide a spectrum of services that range from the Airplay programme that supports children growing up on RAF stations to relationship counselling for RAF couples and respite breaks for RAF families and veterans. They also support members of the Air Cadet Organisation (ACO) (including members of the Combined Cadet Force RAF component) if they are injured whilst on duty. <https://www.rafbf.org/about-us>

The Soldiers Charity: ABF The Soldiers' Charity supports soldiers and former soldiers. They provide financial assistance to all soldiers and their families for debt relief, mobility assistance, educational bursaries, carehome fees, respite breaks, and more. <http://www.soldierscharity.org/>

The Ben (License trade in Scotland): The Ben supports anyone in need in the licensed trade, whatever age or background and wherever in Scotland they are based, provided they have worked in the Licensed Trade for at least three years full-time. <http://www.bensoc.org.uk/>

Royal College of Nursing Foundation: Provides hardship funding, giving assistance to members of the nursing team in times of need. Through the Benevolent Funds they provide support to all working and retired nurses, midwives, health care assistants, nursing students and their families. <http://www.rcnfoundation.org.uk/home>

Timber Trades' Benevolent Society: For applicants who have worked in the Timber Trade in the UK for at least 10 years (or 5 in exceptional cases) as employees of companies engaged in the trading and distribution of wood based products, are in receipt of a low income, have little or no savings and live within the UK. Applications can come from individuals, other charities or similar. <http://www.ttbs.org.uk/>

Electrical Charity: The aim of the RNBS, in partnership with the Electrical Industries Charity, is to help current and retired staff manage significant life issues and events, such as debt, state benefits, health issues, relationship difficulties, family problems, legal rights, bereavement, abuse and emotional distress. The Electrical Industries Charity has a team of volunteers throughout the country who provide information and advice, help fill in forms and contact support agencies. The charity can also award grants to balance the household budget, finance essential household items and provide equipment for disabled people. <http://www.electricalcharity.org/index.php/rwe-npower-lottery/the-rwe-npower-benevolent-society>

Carers Trust

Royal Medical Benevolent Fund: The Royal Medical Benevolent Fund is the leading UK charity for doctors, medical students and their families. They provide financial support, money advice and information when it is needed due to age, ill health, disability or bereavement. <http://www.rmbf.org/>

Unite the Union benevolent fund: The benevolent fund for Unite the union members and employees and their immediate dependents. <http://www.uniteunion.org/how-we-help/memberoffers/benevolentfund/>

NASUWT benevolent fund: The NASUWT Benevolent Fund is available to members and former members of the Union, and their dependents, provided a subscription has been paid to the Union. The NASUWT Benevolent Fund was created to provide effective short-term assistance during difficulties relating to financial hardship as a result of chronic illness, bereavement, an accident or loss of employment through dismissal or redundancy. [NASUWT Benevolent Fund](#)

BEN: BEN is the UK's dedicated charity for those who work, or have worked, in the automotive and related industries, and their dependants. BEN's Welfare Service supports individuals and families through challenging times, providing help, advice, information and financial support. <http://www.ben.org.uk/>

News Traid: Supports people and their immediate dependents, who have been employed in newspaper and magazine distribution in the UK (anyone who deals with newspapers and magazines from the time they leave the printing press until they reach the reader). The charity will help people with a proven trade connection and are in need of support and/or financial assistance. <http://www.newstraid.org.uk/welfare/>

Ambulance Service Benevolent Fund: They endeavor to help both serving and retired ambulance personnel and their immediate dependents in times of exceptional hardship, poverty or personal need. <http://asbf.co.uk/what-we-do/>

The Printing Charity: The Printing Charity helps those who have worked in the printing industry. One-off grants and regular financial assistance are available for those on relatively low incomes. <http://www.theprintingcharity.org.uk/about-us/about-us/>

Civil Service Benevolent Fund: They support civil servants, past or present, and those who work for organisations directly funded by a government department. Support is available in relation to money, stress and anxiety, caring, depression, relationships, mental health <https://www.foryoubyyou.org.uk/>

Carers Trust

NCC Benevolent Fund: Supports people working in the caravan industry who are facing financial difficulty. From small grants to help with much-needed maintenance, or unexpected bills, to larger grants to help provide heating or building alterations to cater for a change of lifestyle. For further information access their website:

http://thencc.org.uk/our_schemes/benevolent_fund.aspx

Elizabeth Finn Fund: They provide one-off and recurring grants for people who are British or Irish and have a professional or similar background or connection, and their dependants. For more information about the type of support the Elizabeth Finn Fund can offer, and their eligibility criteria, see their website:

<https://www.turn2us.org.uk/About-Us/Who-we-help/Elizabeth-Finn-Fund-2016>

Police Charities UK: A wide range of charities have been established to provide support for police officers and their families. You can find more details about these charities, based across the UK, here: <http://www.policecharitiesuk.org/>

Statutory funding

Charities cannot replace statutory funding that should be available to people for essential equipment and respite care. It is always worth checking your local council's website for details of local provision of respite care and short breaks as well as information about whichever scheme has replaced the Social Fund in your local area as you may be able to apply to this fund for essential items for the home. You can also refer to www.gov.uk, which includes information for carers on money issues, care and support services, employment and carers' rights, information for disabled people on employment, education and learning, transport, rights and leisure. You can also read about the Warm Home Discount Scheme here:

<https://www.gov.uk/the-warm-home-discount-scheme>

Advice agencies

The following agencies can offer free, independent advice and information on a range of money issues.

Citizens Advice Bureau: For advice and information on a range of things including benefits and debt. <http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/>

Step Change and National Debtline: For free and independent debt advice. <http://www.stepchange.org/> and <https://www.nationaldebtline.org/>