



BHSCT Charitable Trust Funds Grant Application

Amalgam Fund Name & Number	General Fund CO1
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For official CTF office use only		
CTF Unique Approval Ref : Temp Ref * C-2324-653 *	Date 13 February 2024	Initialled LC

Details of anticipated expenditure (list all expected itemised costs) additional information can be provided on a separate sheet

Background

The key objective of the Bereavement Service within the Belfast Health and Social Care (BHSCT) is to provide support to people at a time of grief, sadness and sometimes distress. The team offer a sensitive, compassionate and empathetic service to people during the period following the death of a relative, friend or colleague. The Bereavement Service is part of the Patient and Client Experience Service within Nursing and User Experience under the Executive Director of Nursing. The main model of delivery for outreach calls is by phone rather than face to face appointments. This model is effective and enables best value for money and allows the service to meet the demand of follow up support within a timeframe of 14 days.

Prior to the Covid 19 pandemic the workforce of the Trust Bereavement Service consisted of one full time Band 8A. Trust Bereavement Coordinator and a part-time 0.54 WTE Band 3 admin support. The primary objective of the Trust Bereavement Coordinator at this time was to lead on the Trust implementation of the Northern Ireland (NI) Strategy for Bereavement Care vision and standards (DHSSPS, 2009) through policy development, service improvement, and collaborative engagement & limited mandated training. This work was predominantly workforce facing, building skills within teams. There was not an outreach bereavement service to any bereaved families.

During the pandemic the Trust responded to the needs of bereaved relatives and the team was extended to provide proactive bereavement support following death in acute/non-acute hospitals and community settings i.e. nursing and residential homes. The team was enhanced prior to 2022 against Covid 19 funding while under the service was under the Medical Directorate. Since March 2022 the enhance service has been funded against charitable funds. This has allowed for the following additional staff :

- 1.0 WTE Band 7 Deputy Bereavement Coordinator,
- 1.4 WTE Band 3 Administration Support
- 0.2 WTE Chaplain,

During the Covid 19 pandemic there were highly skilled retired nurses who Volunteered within the Bereavement Service to support timely outreach calls to our bereaved families. A further Band 6 WTE 0.66 (25 hours bank hours per week) has been employed against slippage money and a current vacancy within the Patient Client Experience team. This is to meet demand of timely outreach calls to our Bereaved families as these volunteers are now retired. The Bereavement Team is commitment to providing Volunteering opportunities and incorporates experienced volunteers who make bereavement calls to families. Their involvement saves financially on further Band 6 Registered Nurses being employed through the Nurse Bank. However, there is still a requirement for our volunteers to be supported by a substantive member of staff to ensure adequate supervision and are unable to fulfil the full scope of the role of a registered nurse.

Public and Trust Value

Through having an Enhanced Bereavement team key objectives have been achieved, which have demonstrated the public value of this service. These include:

- Early assessment for those experiencing complicated grief; targeted and timely referral on to appropriate services
- Education and training for all relevant staff in areas of Safe and Sensitive Care of the deceased person and their family, communication skills to enhance therapeutic relationships, consent for Hospital Post Mortem Examination
- Enhanced Spiritual care support for bereaved families & bereaved staff, by a Chaplain with specialist skills in bereavement care
- Embedded culture of quality improvement relating to safe and effective care of deceased and their families
- Service user and colleague satisfaction with service



- Adherence to strategic strategies both internal and external (as detailed in attached business case)

Anticipated Expenditure

Anticipated expenditure to maintain the current enhanced for a further 2 years from the 1 April 2024

- £301978 additional fund requirement above baseline budget, £150989 per year

Exit Strategy

The Bereavement Service acknowledges that a commitment was made in March 2022 on submission of the initial charitable funds application that recurrent funding would have been secured from the Department of Health led by Patricia Donnelly under the development of the NI 10 year Bereavement Strategy and Charter. At the time Patricia Donnelly wrote to the Trust that it the intention of the Department of Health to secure funding to enhance bereavement services and support Trusts across the region. However, due to the current economic climate recurrent funding has not been secured. Senior Management has met with PHA (Heather Reid), SPPG (Fiona Quigg) to scope for recurrent funding and raise concerns about the impact not securing funding. Retaining core services only would remove **the enhanced aspects of the service** put in place during Covid-19. Brenda Creaney has written to Patricia Donnelly on 18 December 2023 requesting a meeting to provide the Belfast Trust with an update of current and planned developments for the Bereavement Service and the potential to secure recurrent funding. The vulnerability of this invaluable service was highlighted to Dr Cathy Jack and the Executive team during the Nursing User Experience, QMS presentation on the 22 November 2023.

NOTE :

Please see attached business case: Enhanced Bereavement Team.

Please see:

- OBA scorecard Appendix 1
- Diagram of the services and care currently provided by the BHSCT Enhanced Bereavement team Appendix 2

Preferred option:

Option 3 is preferred option as this option would mitigate most risks, with continued use of current model and processes that have already been evidenced as effective. Option 3 would provide greatest VFM, as would not require change management and additional training of staff, or need lengthy recruitment processes.

£301978 additional fund requirement above baseline budget over 2 years

Option 2 would also mitigate most risks, with continued use of current model and processes that have already been evidenced as effective, but only in the short term. Retention of current staff would prove challenging due to instability of only 1 year being offered. Recruitment and training of new staff will be challenging as this option does not offer stability and training to become skilled takes 6 months to 1 year.

£150,989 additional fund requirement above baseline budget

Although Option4 would have the greatest impact on meeting the Services objectives, it would require the greatest recurrent funding allocation.

Amount Required Exclusive of VAT £301,978

APPLICANT PRINT NAME: _____Allison McCrea Senior Manager for Nursing Governance and Patient Experience _____

APPLICANT SIGNATURE & DATE 14/02/2024 Allison McCrea

Employee declaration FOR TRAVEL COURSE AND CONFERENCES UK & IRELAND ONLY

Where applicable, by signing this form I confirm that:



My study leave application has been approved by the appropriate manager through HRPTS system in line with the assistance to study policy.
I am responsible for ensuring that the correct level of approval has been obtained when submitting the Charitable Funds Application

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

I have reviewed the attached request and I am content it meets the Public Benefit Test, it fits with the fund objectives, Trust objectives, values and is in line with the CTF Handbook & Guiding Principles

***Committee Member 1
Signature & Date***

***Committee Member 2 or Chair
Signature & Date***

Category of Spend Please Select one

Building & Refurb		Medical Research		Patient Education & Welfare	
Purchase of New Equip		Staff Education		Other	
Other- Please Specify					

col Committee approval 19/02/24.



Mon 19/02/2024 11:15

Brookes, Karen

Re: Urgent - Charitable funds application for Bereavement Service

To: McCaffrey, Joanne; Devlin, Camilla; Williams, Nicola; Carey, Bernie; McConaghy, Brendan

happy to support

kind regards
Karen

From: McCaffrey, Joanne <Joanne.McCaffrey@belfasttrust.hscni.net>

Sent: 19 February 2024 09:57

To: Devlin, Camilla <Camilla.Devlin@belfasttrust.hscni.net>; Williams, Nicola <Nicola.Williams@belfasttrust.hscni.net>; Carey, Bernie <bernie.carey@belfasttrust.hscni.net>; E

Subject: Urgent - Charitable funds application for Bereavement Service

From: McCaffrey, Joanne On Behalf Of Thompson, Jennifer

Sent: 12 February 2024 11:49

To: Devlin, Camilla <camilla.devlin@belfasttrust.hscni.net>; Johnston, Derek <derek.johnston@belfasttrust.hscni.net>; McDonnell, Gavin <Gavin.McDonnell@belfasttrust.hscni.net>; Brookes, Karen <karen.brookes@belfasttrust.hscni.net>; McConaghy, Brendan <brendan.mcconaghy@belfasttrust.hscni.net>; McMahon, Clare <Clare.McMahon@belfasttrust.hscni.net>

Subject: Urgent - Charitable funds application for Bereavement Service

Morning,

Please see attached Charitable Funds application from the Bereavement Service and email below from Brona Shaw.

The request is being sent to Committee members for approval by e-mail.

Can you confirm you are content to support and responses by Monday 19th February would be appreciated.

The request requires Committee approval.

Kind Regards

Joanne McCaffrey

Personal Secretary

2nd Floor, Admin Building

Knockbracken Healthcare Park

Saintfield Road

Belfast

BT8 8BH

Telephone: 0289 5043 245

Email: Joanne.McCaffrey@belfasttrust.hscni.net



Wed 14/02/2024 16:20

McMahon, Clare

RE: Urgent - Charitable funds application for Bereavement Service

To: Thompson, Jennifer; McCaffrey, Joanne



Charitable Funds - General Purpose Committee - Membership Application CMcM
Outlook item

Hi Jennifer, Joanne,

I am content to support.

I do have an interest as I work in the N&UE Directorate – but do not have any management responsibility for the Bereavement Service. I have submitted by application to join in advance of the meeting in March.

Thanks,
Clare

Clare McMahon

Co-Director for Patient & Client Support Services

Directorate of Nursing & User Experience

Elliott Dynes, Royal Hospitals

Clare.mcmahon@belfasttrust.hscni.net

Direct Tel: 028 950 45831

Mobile: 07827 974240



Belfast Health and
Social Care Trust

caring supporting improving together



Mon 12/02/2024 17:23

Thompson, Jennifer

FW: Urgent - Charitable funds application for Bereavement Service

To: McCaffrey, Joanne

Click here to download pictures. To help protect your privacy, Outlook prevented automatic download of some pictures in this message.

From: Johnston, Derek <Derek.Johnston@belfasttrust.hscni.net>

Sent: 12 February 2024 16:44

To: Thompson, Jennifer <Jennifer.Thompson@belfasttrust.hscni.net>; Devlin, Camilla <Camilla.Devlin@belfasttrust.hscni.net>; McDonnell, Gavin <Gavin.McDonnell@belfasttrust.hscni.net>; Karen <Karen.Brookes@belfasttrust.hscni.net>; McConaghy, Brendan <Brendan.McConaghy@belfasttrust.hscni.net>; McMahon, Clare <Clare.McMahon@belfasttrust.hscni.net>

Subject: Re: Urgent - Charitable funds application for Bereavement Service

Given the invaluable work done by the Bereavement team, I am fully supportive of this application for a further year.

I must, however, declare an interest, since as part of the team, Chaplaincy is part of the application.

Derek

Rev Derek Johnston BD MA
Belfast Trust Lead Chaplain
1st Floor, East Wing, RVH
Grosvenor Road, Belfast
BT12 6BA

Tel. (028) 9615 2562
Mob. 07919892477



Wed 14/02/2024 10:28

Thompson, Jennifer

FW: Urgent - Charitable funds application for Bereavement Service

To: McCaffrey, Joanne

Click here to download pictures. To help protect your privacy, Outlook prevented automatic download of some pictures in this message.

From: McConaghy, Brendan <Brendan.McConaghy@belfasttrust.hscni.net>

Sent: 14 February 2024 10:26

To: McDonnell, Gavin <Gavin.McDonnell@belfasttrust.hscni.net>; Johnston, Derek <Derek.Johnston@belfasttrust.hscni.net>; Thompson, Jennifer <Jennifer.Thompson@belfasttrust.hscni.net>; Carey, Bernie <Bernie.Carey@belfasttrust.hscni.net>; Brookes, Karen <Karen.Brookes@belfasttrust.hscni.net>; McMahon, Clare <Clare.McMahon@belfasttrust.hscni.net>

Subject: RE: Urgent - Charitable funds application for Bereavement Service

I am happy to approve

Thanks
Brendan

Brendan McConaghy
Co-Director HR&OD
95049194
07385959089



Mon 19/02/2024 13:14

Thompson, Jennifer

RE: charitable funds application for continued funding Bereavement Service

To ■ McCaffrey, Joanne; ■ CharitableTrustFunds-SM

Leah

I am also happy to support

Thanks

Jennifer

From: McCaffrey, Joanne <Joanne.McCaffrey@belfasttrust.hscni.net>

Sent: 19 February 2024 13:09

To: CharitableTrustFunds-SM <CharitableTrustFunds@belfasttrust.hscni.net>

Cc: Thompson, Jennifer <Jennifer.Thompson@belfasttrust.hscni.net>

Subject: charitable funds application for continued funding Bereavement Service

Morning Leah,

Please see attached responses from General Purposes Committee.

KR

Joanne McCaffrey

Personal Secretary

2nd Floor, Admin Building

Knockbracken Healthcare Park

Saintfield Road

Belfast

BT8 8BH

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Email: Joanne.McCaffrey@belfasttrust.hscni.net