



Hampshire & Isle of Wight Community Foundation Guide to Giving



hiwcf.org.uk

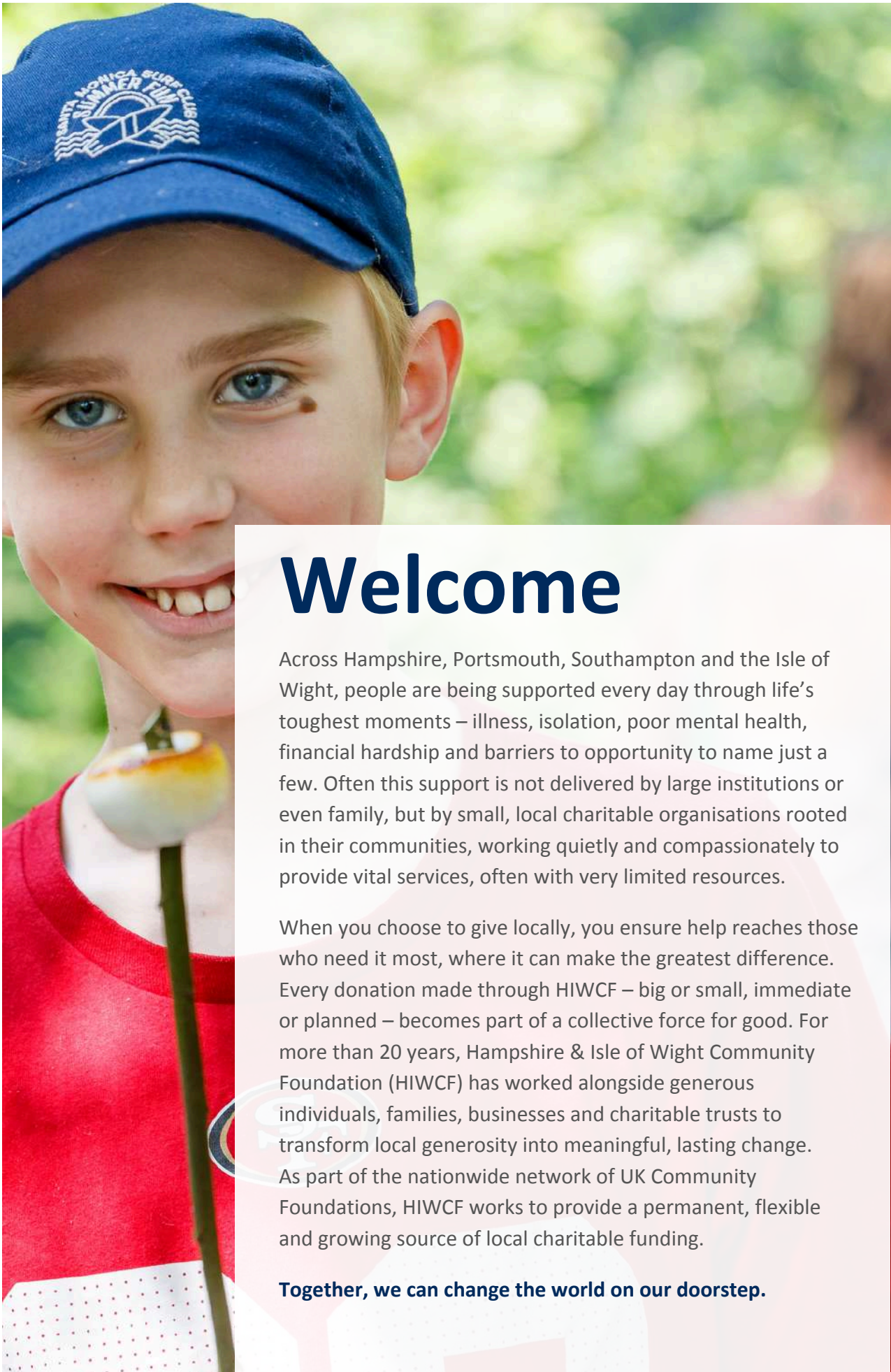


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“Now I think ‘oh, Wednesday, Kathy will be here soon’ and that part is nice, you know? Having somebody there, knowing that they’re going to be there every week.”

Carol (left) with Kathy, a befriender from HOPE New Forest, funded by HIWCF.

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Welcome

Across Hampshire, Portsmouth, Southampton and the Isle of Wight, people are being supported every day through life's toughest moments – illness, isolation, poor mental health, financial hardship and barriers to opportunity to name just a few. Often this support is not delivered by large institutions or even family, but by small, local charitable organisations rooted in their communities, working quietly and compassionately to provide vital services, often with very limited resources.

When you choose to give locally, you ensure help reaches those who need it most, where it can make the greatest difference. Every donation made through HIWCF – big or small, immediate or planned – becomes part of a collective force for good. For more than 20 years, Hampshire & Isle of Wight Community Foundation (HIWCF) has worked alongside generous individuals, families, businesses and charitable trusts to transform local generosity into meaningful, lasting change. As part of the nationwide network of UK Community Foundations, HIWCF works to provide a permanent, flexible and growing source of local charitable funding.

Together, we can change the world on our doorstep.



About us



What we do

HIWCF specialises in funding the small, local organisations that work to reduce the barriers faced by the most disadvantaged people in our region. These groups are reaching people who are often overlooked - they could be families struggling to make ends meet, young people facing barriers, older residents at risk of isolation, and communities dealing with hardship or the impact of inequality.

How we do it

At HIWCF, we act as the conduit between the people who want to change the world on their doorstep and the community groups already making that change happen.

We provide donors with the insight, due diligence and administration needed to make giving easy, secure and impactful. You can be closely involved in your giving – or simply trust us to manage everything on your behalf.

You don't need to set up your own charity, navigate regulations, or take on administrative burdens. Through us, you can give with confidence, clarity and compassion.

And perhaps most importantly, you don't have to choose just one cause. Many donors tell us they care about lots of things: youth unemployment and mental health for example, or lack of connection for elderly people. By giving through HIWCF, you don't have to decide between them.

Through our grant making, your generosity becomes a multiplier – supporting hundreds of local organisations and touching thousands of lives across our region, across the causes that matter most to you and to your community.



Understanding local need

Behind the outward prosperity of our region lies a different reality. Shockingly, 53 neighbourhoods across Hampshire and the Isle of Wight rank in the bottom 10% of areas in England for multiple forms of deprivation, including income, employment, health and education. Pockets of hardship exist in our cities, coastal towns, and rural communities alike, impacting people every day.

As a locally based funder, we see how challenges shift over time, whether driven by rising living costs, isolation, mental health needs or lack of opportunities, and we respond by funding where support will have greatest impact.

More than
**£20
million**

Distributed to
communities
since 2003

Approx
**£15
million**

Value of our
community
endowment

£6,734

Average size of
grant to
community groups





The difference your giving can make

Every grant we provide is tied to a real life.

For years, Tyler experienced homelessness, poor mental health and addiction. The debt advice service at Citizens Advice in Winchester, funded through HIWCF, helped Tyler tackle his financial situation step by step. With patient support from a debt caseworker, he eventually secured a debt relief order, took control of his bills and rebuilt his confidence. Today, Tyler says the support **“has worked wonders for my mental health”** and reflects **“It’s like a never-ending spiral, you know? Something had to give and fortunately for me, I heard about these people here and how they could help. Because without them here, I don’t know where I’d be right now.”**

Stories like Tyler’s remind us that local generosity can support someone’s future, from the most basic stability to renewed hope.

In the New Forest, HOPE’s befriending service connects older people living alone with trained volunteers. Carol, once isolated and housebound, reluctantly agreed to meet a befriender. Today, weekly visits have become the highlight of her week, bringing laughter, shared stories and genuine friendship that she once thought was lost. The impact on her wellbeing is profound, a reminder of the power of human connection supported by thoughtful funding.

Georgina, HOPE’s befriending coordinator said: **“Every person we’re helping is one less person that’s not so isolated and lonely and, really, without this funding from HIWCF, we can’t reach these people.”**



* Tyler



* Carol with befriender, Kathy

The difference your giving can make

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On the Isle of Wight, Abbie's journey shows how targeted, local funding can help young people step into independence. After experiencing instability and trauma, care leaver Abbie accessed mental health support, life skills coaching and employment guidance through a youth charity funded by HIWCF's Care Leavers Fund. With that support, she says **"I have a plan, I am stable and now I have a place to call home - and a job - I'm free"**. Her story, like so many others, shows how consistent support rooted in community can transform lives.

Likewise, Jasper, who lives on the Island but attends Solent University, has had his life transformed by his ability dog, Jack. Funding from HIWCF means that dogs like Jack can be trained by Ability Dogs 4 Young People IOW, helping people like Jasper feel more confident, safe and connected in the community allowing them to lead more fulfilling lives.

Jasper says: **"It's because of him that I feel safe to travel to the mainland for my studies. He gives me a sense of responsibility and he's a brilliant ice breaker."**

Together, these stories show how local giving, guided by HIWCF's deep community insight, can change lives – one person at a time.



* Jasper and Jack

Ways to give

Every donor and supporter we work with has their own motivations, values and aspirations. Some want to honour a loved one, others want to give back to their community, and some simply want to make sure their donations create real and lasting change.

We take a personal, one-to-one approach, helping you shape your giving in a way that feels right for you.

Our two main giving models, **Forever Funds** (endowments) and **Immediate Impact Funds** (also known as Flow-through Funds), offer flexible options depending on how you would like to give.



Forever Funds: creating a lasting legacy



Immediate Impact Funds: making a difference now



Leaving a legacy for your community



Revitalising existing charitable trusts

Forever Funds: creating a lasting legacy

Forever Funds are particularly suited to:



Individuals and families who want to leave a lasting impact



People considering leaving a gift in their Will



Businesses seeking long-term community impact



Existing charitable trusts exploring a sustainable future

A Forever Fund is an endowment held and managed by HIWCF, designed to support communities in perpetuity.

Rather than setting up a separate charitable trust, which can be complex, time consuming and costly, you can establish an endowment with HIWCF and benefit from our expertise, governance and investment management.

Endowment funds with HIWCF range from around £50,000 to over £1 million - but there's no upper limit. Each year, a percentage of the fund is released for grant making, while the capital is carefully invested to protect and grow its value over time, and a small amount supports our costs.

Many donors tell us there is something deeply reassuring in knowing that their generosity will continue supporting local people long into the future.

We take our responsibility as long-term stewards of charitable funds seriously. Forever Fund donations are invested for sustainable growth through professional fund managers.

Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) considerations are integral to our approach, and we do not invest in companies or activities we believe cause harm to our communities.

This careful management helps protect your legacy and maximise its positive impact.

Costs for endowment funds are:

- 5% of the value of the fund on set up, usually deducted from the initial donation.
- 0.375%-0.5% of the value of the fund quarterly (ie approx. 1.5-2% annually)
- We normally release 3.5% of the value of the Fund annually for grant making, in perpetuity.

Immediate Impact Funds: making a difference now



Individuals who want to witness the impact of their giving



Families or groups supporting causes close to their hearts



Businesses wanting to invest in the wellbeing of local people



Organisations wanting to outsource their grant making in a cost-effective way

If you want to see the impact your giving makes right away, an Immediate Impact Fund allows you to support communities now.

We can design a bespoke grant programme around the causes that matter most to you.

You can choose how involved you wish to be, from shaping funding priorities to receiving regular updates on where your support is making a difference.

Immediate support can change a life today, and create hope for tomorrow.

Costs for Immediate Impact Funds range as follows:

- 15% for a bespoke open or invited grant making programme
- 10% for a collective open grant making programme
- 10-15% for an invited or donor advised grant programme, depending on its complexity

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It's lovely to see the transformation from the students waiting to get on the boat to seeing them five days later... It shows them what life can offer – and when you come from a disadvantaged background, that's incredibly aspirational.”

Mark Robinson, Pastoral Lead, Applemore College on the impact of the HIWCF funded voyages with Ocean Youth Trust South.



Leaving a legacy for your community



For many people, giving is about looking ahead and ensuring the causes and communities they care about continue to thrive long into the future.

A legacy gift to HIWCF can be shaped around what matters most to you.

We regularly work with solicitors and professional advisers to ensure legacy gifts are managed carefully, transparently and in line with your wishes. With strong governance, deep local insight and long term stewardship, we will ensure your gift is in safe and experienced hands.

Whether you choose to create a named fund during your lifetime or leave a gift through your Will, your generosity can continue making a lasting difference across our region.

Revitalising existing charitable trusts

Many local charitable trusts carry a proud history, but some struggle to continue due to administrative demands or lack of active trustees.

Through the national Revitalising Trusts programme, we work with the Charity Commission to transfer charitable trusts whose trustees want their original mission to live on. HIWCF ensures that these funds continue to benefit local communities, as their founders intended.

If this is relevant to your charitable trust, just get in touch and we can signpost you for your next steps.





Ready to get involved?

If you would like to discuss your philanthropy with us, we would be delighted to meet with you.

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