



Community Relations Youth Service Support Scheme

Support for Headquarter Voluntary Organisations

INFORMATION NOTES

PURPOSE OF THE SCHEME

The purpose of CRYSSS is to enhance the capacity of youth-based organisations to make an effective contribution to improving relations in Northern Ireland.

This contribution may be through work with young people or through a process of institutional change and development. A concern to address one or more of the following issues must be fundamental to projects seeking CRYSSS funding:

- Sectarian and prejudice-based issues
- Tension and conflict (particularly at interface areas)
- The development of integrated/inclusive youth work
- Communication, trust, tolerance and respect for different cultures, faiths and traditions

Embedding the principles of Equity, Diversity and Interdependence (EDI) into the ethos, policies and practices of youth work organisations underpins this purpose.

Grant aid is available to assist youth organisations to deliver policies, strategies, training and/or practice in support of the above purpose.

Priority will be given to applications that meet one or more of the following objectives:

- Develop innovative community relations/EDI projects and programmes which are capable of replication elsewhere
- Improve the effectiveness of community relations/EDI work within the voluntary youth sector
- Provide opportunities for greater interaction and sharing of experience between Youth Service organisations around the issues of community relations, mutual understanding, prejudice reduction and conflict transformation
- Promote the Youth Service curriculum
- Embed the principles of EDI

In accordance with the new YCNI funding policy, all organisations wishing to access the CRYSS Scheme must demonstrate that:

- they can meet YCNI's basic criteria; and
- YCNI's test for a regional organisation.

Organisations that meet the above criteria can apply on a competitive basis to deliver specific programmes that meet the aims and objectives of the CRYSS Scheme.

The Council will also prioritise bids which are developmental in nature, and which are related to a clear community relations/EDI policy and strategy.

Funding is available under the following headings:

- Staffing (**see note below*)
- Training (including consultation and development)
- Administration/Overheads
- Transport/travel
- Monitoring and Evaluation
- Activities
- Other assistance

** Please note the Scheme is not designed to support or initiate staff posts. Staffing costs should relate to the management costs of a project (for example staff cover, consultants' fees, or staff expenses associated with the project).*

Grant for materials is paid only on items which help the project and which cannot be obtained through the usual channels. If items costing in excess of £200 are required, a covering note should be included explaining in what way these will enhance the programme.

Whilst one of the aims of community relations/EDI work is purposeful cross-community contact, the Council recognises the value of exploratory and reflective work within a particular community. Ideally such work should be in preparation for eventual cross-community contact, or an important part of an ongoing programme involving both contact and single community sessions. The Council also encourages approaches concerned with wider community relations issues, including issues of race and ethnicity, and other areas where prejudice is an issue.

GRANT MAKING PROCEDURES

The closing date for this round of applications is **4.00 pm on Friday, 9 October 2009.**

CRYSSS is a small grants scheme. The majority of the budget is ring-fenced to support short-term, capacity building projects no longer than one year in length.

A small grants and training packing is available for agencies wishing to develop a Community Relations/EDI or Diversity policy.

Assistance will be given to all applicants on request and you are advised to avail of this offer.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

All CRYSSS grants are issued on the basis that they are used for the purposes outlined in the application. It is the responsibility of the funded agency to notify Council if any change of circumstance occurs. Any change of focus for a project funded under CRYSSS must be agreed in writing by the Council prior to continuing with the work.

In terms of project delivery, Council must be notified of key delivery dates. This information may be used to facilitate an on-site visitation by our Development Officer as part of monitoring conditions.

Organisations in receipt of grant aid **MUST** provide an evaluation report to the Youth Council on completion of the programme. Criteria for this report will be outlined within the letter of offer.

Future funding is subject to the submission of this report plus a financial breakdown of expenditure (see below). The use of an external evaluator is encouraged by the Youth Council.

The annual accounts of agencies in receipt of funding must clearly indicate the grant from CRYSSS, and a financial statement must be submitted to Council on completion of the project clearly outlining the income and expenditure relating to the project. The Council reserves the right to request original receipts relating to all expenditure.

MAKING AN APPLICATION

Applicants are asked to complete and return the attached application form by the deadline above. Additional application forms can be downloaded from our website at www.ycni.org.

Please note that applications for funding are not accepted by e-mail.

Joint applications are welcomed from two or more agencies, provided there is a clear agreement between the agencies about the administration and distribution of any funds received.

Completed application forms should be forwarded to the:

**Community Relations Youth Service Support Scheme
Youth Council for Northern Ireland
Forestview
Purdy's Lane
BELFAST
BT8 7AR**

Envelopes should be clearly marked “CRYSSS Application”.