



Youth Project Partnership - Criteria for Funding

The Ground Level Ministry Team have put aside a portion of finance from the last Grapevine Celebration Missions Offering for work with church based youth in the UK. Ground Level views this as a partnership initiative to encourage the development and expansion of Youth work within the Network.

The funding is for one year only in the first instance. After a successful review of your project we would like to offer funding for a further 2 years, subject to available funds. It is thought the funding will be part of the total amount needed for a youth project, up to a maximum of 50% of the total funding required for the project. Grants may range from £500 - £4000 (maximum). Applications will be assessed bimonthly.

Successful applications should meet the following criteria.

1. We are looking to support a range of projects that are designed to:
 - engage with non church youth **AND**
 - disciple church youth.

If your proposed project works only with church youth and does not engage with non church youth then your application will not be considered at this time.

2. We are seeking to support a variety of models of youth work. We will be looking at supporting work within the Ground Level Network.

Churches that apply must have been within the Ground Level Network for the last 2 years.

If your project works with youth outside of the UK then we suggest you apply directly to the Ground Level Team: admin@groundlevel.org.uk

3. Your application must demonstrate that the church leadership is prepared to invest time in developing, supporting and mentoring younger leader(s) involved in working with youth.

Note: Discipling younger leaders is part of Ground Level values. We will invest in projects where this is demonstrated.

4. Your application should show that there is a Youth Team already in place. If you are requesting funding for a new project, your application should say how and when a Youth Team will be put in place.

Note: Teamwork is part of the Ground Level values.

5. Your application should demonstrate how our additional funding will enable existing youth work to be extended. Your application should detail new aspects of work. Our desire is to build on the success of good initiatives but we will also consider funding new projects in some instances.

We do not want to replace already committed funding for existing work.

6. All supported projects will be expected to provide employed youth workers (whether paid or unpaid) with job descriptions and conditions of service. Assistance in drawing these up can be given by the Ground Level Task Group if requested. Your application should clearly demonstrate a willingness to work towards this good practice.

Note: Ground Level will only support those projects that can provide written evidence of job descriptions and conditions of service for their youth worker(s) or who are willing to develop these.

7. Your application should say how you will monitor the effectiveness of your project. Ground Level will ask all supported projects for written feedback.

8. Your application should say how you will sustain your project once our funding to you ceases. (This will be after a maximum of three years, subject to available funding).

Conditions of the Grant

There is a limited amount of funding available. If your application is unsuccessful we will provide you with feedback as to why.

This is a partnership initiative. Ground Level will provide the expertise and resources to equip and support the vision you, as a local church, have for youth. The monitoring information you provide to us will be used to inform the evaluation process. Ground Level's youth work will benefit from this process.

All projects supported will be offered the following specific support from Ground Level:

1. An amount of money to be agreed by the Team
2. One to one support from a Youth Development Worker, face to face, per telephone and via email
3. At least two group training events to be held in Lincoln
4. At least two networking opportunities providing opportunity to liaise with workers from other projects
5. Assistance with strategic issues effecting, in particular, employment

All supported projects will be expected to:

1. Provide written monitoring information twice per year
2. Involve the Ground Level Youth Task Group in any issues that could jeopardise the project (e.g. employment & disciplinary issues)
3. Ensure Youth Worker(s) attend training and networking opportunities provided
4. Ensure Youth Worker(s) to meet with the Youth Development Worker
5. Ensure that Youth Workers serve at Grapevine on one of the full time youth teams
6. Ensure Youth Worker(s) participate in one of the UK/Global Synergy Impact mission projects
7. The Youth Development Worker (and possibly a member of the Youth Task Group) must be involved in the recruitment of any new staff funded with this grant