



GLOUCESTERSHIRE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION IMPACT REPORT

2022 - 2023

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TALITHA NELSON, GLOUCESTERSHIRE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION CEO



GCF's vision is for Gloucestershire to be a place where people and communities are empowered to become resilient and strong.

We are working hard to champion the excellent community development happening in Gloucestershire, so everyone can access what they need for a decent life. We encourage collaboration, partnership working and a convening role to help join the dots. We are pleased to have funded and supported so many of the amazing charities that work tirelessly on the ground, providing vital services to many families and individuals across the county.

Whilst our income has decreased since the inflated highs of 2021 due to the pandemic, we have continued to deliver support where it's most needed to help alleviate the increasing poverty in the county. We could not do our work, without the 35 volunteer's that support GCF, those who give back to us through their time, expertise and vital funding.

The Cost of Living Crisis has seen more and more people struggling to keep their heads above water, as well as squeezing the charity sector almost to breaking point. That's why we have responded with major appeals, fundraising for the "Cost of Living Crisis" and now POVERTY HURTS. It is also crucial we support in ways other than funding and develop our reach beyond our grants programmes. We responded with launching the INVEST Leadership Programme which has provide much needed support, in some cases a lifeline, for charity leaders and managers, as they navigate the challenges of delivering vital frontline services, life saving and life changing work to those who need it most, during these difficult times.

Our work has never been more needed, we will continue to innovate and advocate to help strengthen our sector, so Gloucestershire is a great place to work, rest and play.



Our work in numbers

2022 - 2023

Aligned to 8 of the
United Nations SDG's

£977,966 awarded in
320 grants to Gloucestershire
communities in 2022/2023



33
Charity leaders
mentored (2021-23)

**200 Gloucestershire
charities** and **community
groups** funded

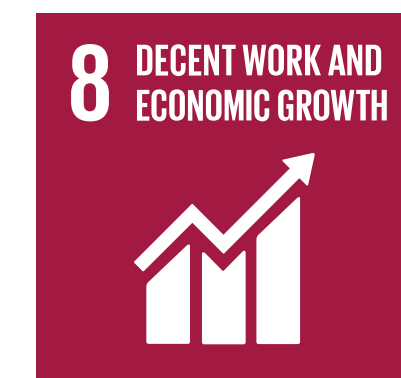


4
Let's Talk sessions
facilitated

Over **140,000 beneficiaries**
supported in 2022/2023 *



7
Young business
people funded



*Based on estimated beneficiary numbers provided by applicants

COST OF LIVING CRISIS APPEAL - FUND

Helping where it's needed most



Raised £117,137 - Delivered 72 grants to Gloucestershire communities

We are supporting organisations helping the most vulnerable people in communities struggling through the cost of living crisis

"We started to offer hot lunches on a Tuesday in November. The group has served 330 meals in the past five months, including dinner on Christmas day; providing company and sustenance to people who would otherwise be isolated and hungry."

The Keepers, Wotton Under Edge



25
WARM SPACES
FUNDED ACROSS
GLOUCESTERSHIRE



8,000
HOT MEALS AND
FOOD PACKAGES
FUNDED



30,000
VULNERABLE
PEOPLE
SUPPORTED



Launch of the POVERTY HURTS APPEAL - Our first live event

GCF'S GREAT ESCAPE - CAR RALLY - COTSWOLDS - JUNE 2023

GLOUCESTERSHIRE
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
PRESENTS



GCF'S GREAT ESCAPE!



Lead Sponsor **OasisEvents**

June saw the launch of "GCF'S GREAT ESCAPE" - A great fun, fundraising event, to launch POVERTY HURTS. We visited amazing locations, met with wonderful charities and other rally drivers, while raising awareness of RURAL POVERTY.

Poverty is about exclusion, it's the inability to access what you need for a decent life. Gloucestershire often perceived as a wealthy county is home to some of the worst poverty in the country. Why not get involved.

You can join us for our next AMAZING event on June 30th 2024, you can sponsor the event and take part, either bring your family or make it a great business team day out, or both, as Tom did below, from Hayman-Joyce.



ONE OF OUR SECRET LOCATIONS



TEAM AND FAMILY DAY OUT FOR TOM HAYMAN FROM HAYMAN JOYCE



A WONDERFUL DINNER AT THE BIBURY MOTOR HUB

INVEST PROGRAMME:

Mentoring & Peer to Peer support
Investing in our charity leaders

Since 2021

Provided **1 to 1 mentoring** for
33 charities in the county

Outcomes reported by charity leaders

- Strengthened personal resilience
- Developed leadership capacity
- Given confidence to take action
- Changed perspective on challenges



INVEST Leadership Programme was created in response to charity leaders requesting mentoring support and an opportunity to **network and collaborate with their peers**.

The aim of the Programme is to contribute to the **sustainability of voluntary sector services to Gloucestershire communities** in the medium to longer term.

The Programme was initiated in late 2020 as a partnership between The Honourable Company of Gloucestershire, Cranfield Trust and GCF.



“The INVEST mentoring programme is an incredible support and has helped me to gain confidence in leading my charity”

INVEST PROGRAMME: Investing in our charity leaders Mentoring & Peer to Peer support

The Mentoring Programme helps to increase charity leaders effectiveness in what can often be an isolated role. The one-to-one mentoring sessions help them develop their own abilities and confidence.

The Peer to Peer exchange enables participants to share current challenges in a safe and supportive environment and initiates collaboration within the sector.

Participants reported they were motivated to take part in P2P for a variety of reasons:

- **Feeling isolated geographically and operationally**
- **To meet new people**
- **Personal development and learn new ways of thinking**
- **Share and listen to others**

INVEST 2024 - find out more:
gloucestershirecf.org.uk/invest-programme/



**LEADERSHIP
PROGRAMME**
FOR GLOUCESTERSHIRE CHARITIES



"The peer to peer support has been incredibly helpful, eye-opening and supportive in my role as charity leader. I have more confidence in my abilities"

INVEST participants

Allsorts Gloucestershire
Charlie's Community Support & Therapy Centre
Cotswold RDA
FGR Community
FVAF
Gloucestershire Deaf Association (GDA)
GRCC
Heart Heroes
Music Works
Priors Park Neighbourhood Project
Read With Me
Sunflowers Suicide Support
The Chamwell Centre
Brendan's Bridge
Building Circles
Home Start Stroud and Gloucester

Info Buzz
Lives of Colour
Move More
Noah's Art Children's Venture
Paganhill Community Group
Play Gloucestershire
The Cotswold Canals Trust
Footsteps Counselling and Care
Gloucester Community Building Collective
Gloucestershire Bundles
Gloucestershire Community Rail Partnership
MW Centred Horseplay
Night Stop
Sunflowers Suicide Support
The Big Yellow Bus
Women's Tower of Strength C.I.C
Empowering Futures

SOUTH WEST ENTERPRISE FUND: SWEF

Supporting our young business community



Awarded £12,090 in grants to 7 young business people

We're helping young people in Gloucestershire to thrive. Providing business bursaries that enable young entrepreneurs to pursue their dreams and to direct and improve their lives the way they want.

The SWEF Programme is a partnership between SWEF, a Community Interest Company and GCF.

The Programme provides an opportunity for young people who have struggled with hardship or faced challenges in their lives to develop their business initiatives.

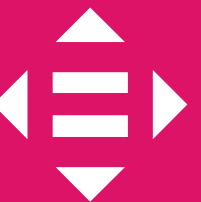
"It's important to remember that behind every application is a person with hopes and dreams for their future." SWEF applicant



8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



SOUTH WEST ENTERPRISE FUND

Our young entrepreneurs



SPOTLIGHT:
WILLIAM COLLIER
AGED 27



What is your business?

Outback Gear Limited is a new outdoor adventure brand that focuses on providing aftermarket products for the automotive van industry.

What difference has the grant made?

The SWEF grant has taken the pressure off the business financially. Without the grant, the business would've needed to look towards taking out a business loan, which is an avenue I had hoped to avoid when embarking on this journey.

Where do you see your business in a years time?

I see the business being fully operational, having sold and successfully installed a number of products. We also have hopes to employ a fitter within the first 12 months.

SPOTLIGHT:
TIETI LUMAKANGILU
AGED 21



What is your business?

Reign Fashion creates high-quality streetwear that embodies urban culture, music of black origin, political activism, and Christianity.

What difference has the grant made?

Coming from a disadvantaged area, have fought to better myself and my life and I have found a passion and talent in the world of fashion and design. The SWEF grant has enabled me to dedicate more time to my business.

Where do you see your business in a years time?

A years' time will mean notable collaborations with other brands and shows at fashion weeks across the UK, EU and US, some of which is already starting to come into fruition.

MAIN GRANTS PROGRAMME

**117 grants totalling £508,159
to Gloucestershire communities**

Strengthening communities by:

- Enabling people to take opportunities that would otherwise not be available
- Reflecting the concerns and priorities of people living and working in our communities
- Involving local people in improving their community

The grant you awarded us has meant we have been able to deliver a functioning community allotment, all 50 plots have been taken up this year. Having the foundations of our site in place has also meant we have unlocked further community funding of £11,000. The process was professional, slick and a delight from our community's perspective, thank you

Winchcombe Community Allotment



Winchcombe Community Allotment

HIGH SHERIFF GRANTS PROGRAMME

44 grants totalling £104,563 to support vulnerable young people in Gloucestershire.

Funded projects help to build brighter futures and reduce the risk of becoming involved with crime and anti-social behaviour by developing skills, increasing self-worth and offering positive role models

Impact includes:

- Improved mental health
- Reduced isolation and loneliness
- Improved emotional wellbeing
- Increased confidence
- Feeling valued
- Increased skills
- Improved employability
- Happiness



"We just love GCF, our local funder - you understand the issues we have in the county around rural poverty and isolation, lack of provision for young people and inclusion in mainstream activities" Creative Sustainability



Creative Sustainability

FREEMASONS GRANTS PROGRAMME

25 grants totalling £40,991 to Gloucestershire communities

Supporting small community groups helping older people, people with disabilities and young people facing disadvantage

Grant story: Share and Repair Stonehouse

Share and Repair is a volunteer community group that repairs broken household items saving them from landfill and offering them to the community at a low cost.

Following a visit from one of the Freemason's grant panel members in 2022, a grant of £2,000 transformed their workshop space:

We have completed major improvements to our workshop over the last few months with your help. The new engineers' benches were needed urgently to replace the old sideboards we had been using. Our shop window and reception area looked disorganised and unprofessional and with the new shelving now looks inviting to customers. Our tool stock badly needed upgrading and we now have the tools we need.

One of our volunteers lost his wife a year ago. He had been her carer and so he had not been able to spend much time with us for a while. He gradually returned and now has become one of the mainstays of our organisation, taking charge of the woodwork side of repairs. He has recently built a store for our wood supplies at the rear of our building, a big project. He says 'I would not have got through the last year without being involved with Share and Repair'



How we align to the United Nation's SDG'S



Our primary objectives support many of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's)

Aligned to 8 of the United Nations SDG's

1. No Poverty

Cirencester Housing for Young People (CHYP)

Primary issue: Homelessness

Case Study:

Tom was 17, living with his mum and sibling when his mum's mental health took a turn for the worst. He was at college, and he just could no longer cope with the situation at home and maintain his studies. He came to live at CHYP. By this point Tom's attendance at college was poor as he had found it difficult to concentrate on his studies, but as a bright young man he had the potential to do well. Tom's support worker encouraged and enabled him to get his college attendance back on track. Tom gradually began to take responsibility and control for himself. He received good grades and has gone to study Chemical Engineering at Hull University.

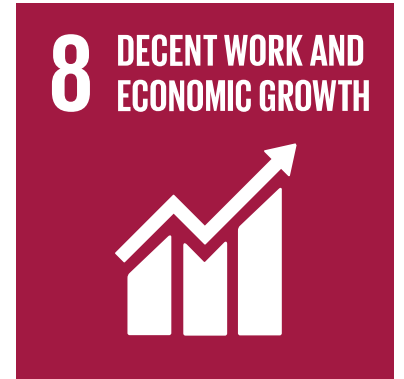
2. Zero Hunger

GL11 Community Hub

Primary issue: Stronger Communities

Case Study:

In the 13 weeks to the end March of 2023 GL11 supported 273 people (weighted to young families with children) who received Food Pantry help. "I was in a total state that day when I came in, I felt out of control, because I didn't know what to do. Everyone is so lovely and kind. The Food Pantry literally saved my bacon. Universal Credit is just not enough to stretch, so being able to come [to GL11], be welcomed, and get help with our weekly bills, it's just incredible and I can't thank you enough really."



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3. Good Health & Well-being Dursley Tabernacle Church

Primary issue: Mental Health and Wellbeing
Case Study:
One lady came to our Care at Christmas event, having seen it advertised on our social media page. She cried, then she laughed, smiled and cried some more. She said she had been so lonely for so long, hadn't known where to turn, and couldn't believe she had finally found help. Her husband had died two years ago, leaving her with a severely autistic and aggressive teen. She was unable to work, because of the care requirements, felt abandoned by friends and was struggling both financially and mentally. She was delighted at the chance to talk to people, as well as accessing help. She now has regular help from each of the service providers who were present.

4. Quality Education Nowans Community Trust / Lives of Colour

Primary issue: Education and Training
Case Study:
The young people learned a lot about cyber and technology and how this is related to our day to day life and safety. They had to do research to improve their skills in looking for information online and had to do a presentation in front of everyone meaning for most of them it was the first time public speaking.

One of the young people had selective mutism and by the end of the week she learned, made new friends and was able to present her learning to the whole class. The parents were so overjoyed to have her able to overcome her fears that she has forever been grateful to Lives of Colour.

 <p>8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH</p>	 <p>1 NO POVERTY</p>
 <p>10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES</p>	 <p>2 ZERO HUNGER</p>
 <p>11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES</p>	 <p>3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING</p>
 <p>17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS</p>	 <p>4 QUALITY EDUCATION</p>

How we align to the United Nation's SDG'S

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10. Reduced Inequalities

Chalfest Community Interest Company

Primary issue: Disability

Case Study:

Chalfest provides a feel good factor throughout our local community. It's a festival that ensures that the community comes together, a celebration of volunteers, community groups and family.

A local family have a teenage son with severe learning and physical disabilities. They love attending Chalfest, but this year in particular was wonderful for them. Their son was able to enjoy so many aspects of the event as a family unit. He was able to use the specially designed Mobiloo that we paid for as well as some of the children's activities. The family were able to find space to chill out as well as enjoying some of the acts and performers from a distance.

16. Peace Justice & Strong Institutions

Gloucestershire Magistrates Association

Primary issue: Crime

Case Study:

Primary school children (and their parents and teachers) have gained an understanding of the judicial system. In particular the scenario this year involved the carrying of a bladed article and the children learnt of the life changing consequences both of those charged with a criminal offence and their victims.

One child with learning difficulties wanted to take a speaking role and although their teacher was reluctant to allow this to happen they performed extremely well winning one of the awards. Their teacher has reported that their confidence has increased enormously since the event.



How we align to the United Nation's SDG'S

Our primary objectives support many of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

Aligned to 8 of the United Nations SDG's

11. Sustainable Cities & Communities Brockweir Community Interest Company

Primary issue: Community Support and Development
Case Study:

Feedback from the users of the new play equipment in the Brockweir community play area:

"Its very entertaining, it has lots of places where I can enjoy myself. The thing I like the most about it is that wherever I go I end up somewhere fun! I give it 10/10"

"I like the ropes, lots of things to do with them. I love the musical instruments, whatever tune you do its great! I give it 10/10".

17. Partnership for the Goals Strike A Light

Primary issue: Arts, Culture and Heritage
Case Study:

Strike A Light are working to build stronger communities through creative activities and the development of a growing group of skilled Community Producers.

"Partnerships are crucial to our work. Community Producers bring a wealth of local and cultural knowledge, with Gloucester communities as vital project partners - informing and shaping the programme. In Gloucester we partner with many groups and networks including: JOLT/ Gloucester Culture Trust, The Friendship Cafe, St Mary DeCrypt, Guildhall, Roots Cafe, All Nations Community Centre, Pride in Gloucestershire and GYCA."



Past Commitments and Our Progress

In the last report we made the following commitments, inspired by the 10 Pillars of Stronger Practice for Charitable Foundations designed by the Association of Charitable Foundations. This is our progress:

1 Having a deep understanding of our vision, mission and values

Progress to Date: We've published two, widely shared and accessible research reports assessing local need in a changing landscape. Our Supporting the Solutions Report released in May 2021 was our first step to demonstrating our commitment to deepening our understanding of community need.

2 Making ourselves accountable to those we serve and support

Progress to Date: We have conducted a survey of applicants regarding the grant making service we provide. As a result of feedback, we have adapted our application forms and criteria as well as initiating a two-stage application process in 2023. We continue to seek feedback as part of our end of grant reports.

3 Recognising the importance and implications of time

Progress to Date: Whilst we maintain our regular grant making programmes that support organisations with both project and operational costs to support shorter and longer term development we have also launched a Cost of Living Crisis Fund to support the more urgent needs of communities.

4 Embracing good funding practice

Progress to Date: In 2022 we signed up as an IVAR Open and Trusting grant maker, with a range of tailored commitments around flexibility, urgency, trust and risk, helping us to be more accountable to the organisations we support.

5 Recognising equality and inclusion as paramount

Progress to Date: We continue to review our processes for improvements to make them more accessible and prioritise those applications that are from groups who we know are most negatively impacted by the challenges facing our communities. We recognise inequality within our county and prioritise work that helps to lift communities that face challenges and give them a voice.

Welcoming new people to the GCF team

We are delighted to welcome members of staff and new trustees:



Lucy Pollock, Project & Operations Manager
Lucy joined the GCF team in March. She provides operational support to the senior executive team. Lucy brings with her a wealth of knowledge and experience having worked in the charity and corporate sector for over 15 years. Lucy is passionate about connecting and empowering local grass roots organisations to improve opportunities for communities so they can thrive. She is constantly inspired by the many brilliant charities in Gloucestershire and the amazing work they do to support our local communities.



Helen Wolfson, Grants Officer
Helen has worked with a variety of grassroots and national charities over the last twenty years both in the UK and overseas. Having been a fundraiser, campaigner, trustee, administrator, project manager, capacity-builder, researcher, strategic planning advisor and washer-upper, Helen has a rounded understanding of many different aspects of working in the charity sector. She enjoys hearing about the myriad of inspiring plans that people are making to create stronger communities across Gloucestershire.



Henry Robinson, Trustee
Henry has farmed in the Cotswolds for all his adult life. He is a committed countryman with an interest and enthusiasm for the countryside and rural life. He is a trustee of three large estates, chairs the Trustees at Rendcomb College, and is a past president of the Country Land & Business Association. In the past he has chaired the Deer Initiative and has been a Commissioner for Income Tax, he is currently on the board of Natural England. Henry is the High Sheriff of Gloucestershire for 2023-2024.



Claire Thayers, Trustee
Claire is a freelance CSR consultant, with a marketing background and experience of working in the private, public and charitable sectors. She grew up in the Cotswolds, and was a young farmer, and ex farmers wife, she began her career working in the world of packaging design. Working for law firm Coodes Solicitors to develop their marketing strategy, she created the Cornwall 100 club, a philanthropic club for local businesses, in partnership with Cornwall Community Foundation.

Welcoming new people to the GCF team

We are delighted to welcome members of staff and new trustees..



Matthew Williams, Trustee

Matthew retired from his business career as a turnaround professional in 2020, having fulfilled several roles as CEO of US corporate and private equity owned manufacturing businesses. With a business degree, he previously worked for blue chip FMCG companies both in the UK and Europe. He has since developed a close interest in working with local community charities, providing pro bono management consultancy and mentoring advice.



Geoff Smith, Trustee

Geoff is a seasoned professional with a rich background in business scaling spanning various sectors from SMEs to FTSE 100 listed companies. As a dedicated trustee with GCF, Geoff expands his charitable endeavours, reflecting his passion for helping others. He also serves as a progression mentor with The Princes Trust, as well as leading, facilitating and participating in other impactful local fundraising initiatives.



Kate Hartshorn, Trustee

Kate works at SGS College as Head of Funding and Audit Compliance and has spent 30 years working within the funding and further education sector. She works closely with the funding authorities, ensuring the colleges curriculum plan aligns to local strategy and is compliant with all funding regulations. Kate recently set up SGS Create, a new full-time provision for young people aged 14-16 for whom mainstream education is not right for them, maybe due to neurodiversity, SEMH needs or bullying.

“At Gloucestershire Community Foundation, people are at the heart of everything we do and we recognise that everyone has a unique contribution to make to the life of our communities.”

Our Annual Celebrations - thanking all of our supporters

THE OLD GORE BARN, NEAR CIRENCESTER - NOVEMBER 22-23

SPONSORED BY CCLA AND JANE TUFFNEL



A FEW OF OUR GCF TEAM, TRUSTEES, PRESIDENT AND VP



HENRY ROBINSON, HIGH SHERIFF OF GLOUCESTERSHIRE, MAKING HIS SPEECH



SHARING HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED



WONDERFUL FOOD ON OFFER



A FEW OF OUR VOLUNTEERS

Thank you!



Lastly, we would like to take this opportunity to say thank you. We would like to say a massive thank you to all our trustees, who have provided support and hard work in a busy time.

Thank you also to our amazing financial supporters who have provided vital funds to enable us to carry out our much-needed work, without them none of this would have been possible.

Finally, a massive thank you to all the charities and community groups we have worked with. They have provided essential support to the communities of Gloucestershire and the lovely photos featured throughout this report.

Also a big thank you to the Cotswold Film Company for sponsoring the Car Rally photos and film, and the fantastic photographers Tom Cross and Reyaz Limalia.

With huge thanks to all of our supporters and those listed below supporting with over £5,000



THE
JULIA AND HANS RAUSING
TRUST

SOVEREIGN



Charles
Russell
Speechlys



BritishRedCross



Hitchins
Family Trust



Department
for Culture,
Media & Sport

