

# Information Pack



Cambridgeshire  
Community  
Foundation

CONNECTING DONORS TO LOCAL CHARITABLE PROJECTS

## Cambridgeshire Community Foundation's Young People's Panel (YPP)

# Introduction from the CEO

Thank you for your interest in Cambridgeshire Community Foundation (CCF). We provide grants to community groups and local charities to help them support people facing challenges, disadvantages, and inequality. The money to do this comes from our donors – people, businesses and councils who believe in our work to improve the lives of people and communities across Cambridgeshire. Our latest Vital Signs 2021 report illustrates some of the problems that we are trying to address.

In March 2020 we launched our Coronavirus Community Fund and began fund raising immediately. The speed with which we were able to mobilise meant we were the first grant-maker in the county to start getting money to people in the most need. Our unique position, connecting Donors with local groups, enabled us not only to raise a total of £1.5 million but to distribute it quickly to support people throughout the pandemic. Taking this leading role in inspiring and co-ordinating the community response to Coronavirus was in addition to our regular work.

This has reinforced recognition of CCF as the local lead for Cambridgeshire philanthropy and our expertise in understanding the challenges communities face. Perhaps never have our communities been more important to meet the challenges that the pandemic has brought, particularly to the most vulnerable in our communities.

We are passionate in our work and we know that we need to listen to the communities that we work with to understand how to help. This is where the Young People's Panel (YPP) comes in. Communities best understand the challenges they face and how to overcome these. The nature of projects we support is wide-ranging. From projects supporting people to overcome health challenges, tackle isolation, through to projects to improve our environment - our impact is wide but is centred on improving the life chances of people across Cambridgeshire. We want young people's voice to help shape our work – including the types of projects we should fund, how we spread the word about CCF and how groups can access our grants. The YPP will have a particular focus on assessing CCF's support of, communication with, and inclusion of young people.

I hope that you might be able to be part of this journey. There is so much more to do. For many people in Cambridgeshire, life is challenging, and the additional pressures brought by the pandemic means that CCF's work is more important than ever.

In this pack, you will read more about CCF and the YPP. Thank you for taking the time to learn more about CCF and we look forward to you being a part of our YPP.

*Michael O'Toole*

# About CCF

CCF is a registered charity founded in 2004. We operate across the whole of Cambridgeshire, including Peterborough.

## Our purpose

To improve the quality of life for the people of Cambridgeshire, especially focussing on the more vulnerable or disadvantaged.

To achieve this we work with donors, local authorities, businesses, charities and community groups to:

- Actively inspire philanthropy and increase resources for communities in Cambridgeshire
- Invest in important community projects through grants
- Provide leadership on critical community issues

## Our vision

To harness the county's success & economic performance to reduce inequity & social problems by empowering communities to help themselves.

Our role is to understand local issues and create strategic grant-making to help communities address challenges and make positive change.

Over the past 16 years, we have made grants of over £20 million. We distribute around 700-1,000 grants each year and, last year, this was worth a record total value of £3.8m. We fund a wide range of projects. We fund projects supporting people to overcome health challenges, live independently, tackle homelessness and to support wellbeing. We also fund an increasing amount of projects to improve our environment.

## CCF Team

We achieve all of the above with a small, dedicated team of 9 staff, 15 Trustees and about 30 volunteers, including our President and Vice-Presidents. Our office is based in Cambridge on Newmarket Road.

To learn more about our team, please visit [cambscf.org.uk/our-team](https://cambscf.org.uk/our-team)

# Young People's Panel (YPP)

## YPP's purpose

- Provide young people's voice & perspective to CCF, to help us achieve maximum impact for young people in the communities we support
- Represent young people from a broad spectrum of Cambridgeshire communities
- Help CCF decide how grants can achieve the best impact to improve young people's lives and life chances
- Encourage a positive culture and values within CCF

## YPP role in building CCF's profile

- Panel members will act as ambassadors for CCF to build profile, awareness, and relationships
- There will be opportunities to be involved in CCF meetings, local media, and events

## Skill development

CCF is keen to support the development of its Young Panel members. Alongside the work of the panel, members will have the opportunity to engage in mentoring with representatives from Cambridge Ahead's Young Advisory Committee. They will also be able to create their own development plan, tailored to the skills they are most interested in learning. Some of these skills might be:

- Leadership skills
- Good communication and interpersonal skills
- Experience of meetings and committee work
- Confidence
- Understanding of some of the issues facing communities in Cambridgeshire

## Details of YPP membership

- YPP core members will be aged 18-29.
- CCF staff and members of Cambridge Ahead Youth Advisory Committee will also be part of the YPP.

## Term

- Members will serve an initial two-year term and are eligible for re-appointment for up to three additional one-year terms.
- Members may leave the YPP at any time.

## YPP Launch

- The YPP will be launched at a workshop in October 2022.
- Young people who are interested in being part of the YPP will be invited to attend the workshop that will take place in the morning/lunch time at a venue, to be confirmed.
- The workshop will consider a range of options for how the YPP can best work. We believe that the members will know best what they can offer.

## Expenses

- The YPP member role is a voluntary role.
- Expenses for travel etc. will be covered by CCF.
- If there are additional needs for support to access and participate in sessions and activities, these can be discussed with CCF during the application process or at the time of appointment as necessary.
- CCF will always try to provide whatever support is needed for young people to engage with these sessions.

## Meetings

- It is expected that there will be 1-2 in-person meetings each year and other meetings will be held by Zoom.
- In person meetings may be held in Cambridge or at other locations across the county.
- YPP members' views will be sought via emails, surveys, etc.

## Mentoring

Members of the Cambridge Ahead Youth Advisory Committee have experience in capturing the thinking of young people about their future and their ideas for the future of Cambridgeshire. Representatives from the Cambridge Ahead Youth Advisory Committee will be part of the YPP and will be able to support new members of the YPP.

## Time commitment

- 1-2 in-person meetings per year with required attendance (in difficult circumstances, attendance can be online).
- Other meetings will be held as CCF continues to develop these strategies. You will have at least a week's notice before these meetings, and attendance isn't mandatory but is highly encouraged. These additional meetings will be held over Zoom.
- There will be further opportunities to attend events, meetings with stakeholders, and celebrations with CCF.

# Application process

To apply, please submit a written or video application answering the following questions:

- Why do you want to be part of the CCF Young People's Panel?
- What is your experience of working as part of a team?
- What is an issue you believe to be most important to young people in Cambridge?
- What skills would you like to develop as a member of the Young People's Panel?

There is no word or time limit, but as a guide you should aim for about 250 words or 1-2 minutes per answer.

Your application should be sent by email to [xanthe@cambscf.org.uk](mailto:xanthe@cambscf.org.uk) and please copy in [michael@cambscf.org.uk](mailto:michael@cambscf.org.uk)

If you have any questions about applying, please contact Xanthe at [xanthe@cambscf.org.uk](mailto:xanthe@cambscf.org.uk).

**The closing date for applications is Sunday 14th August 2022 at 11.59pm.**

CF is an equal opportunities organisation and welcomes applications from all of our community. It is particularly important to CCF to recruit a diverse YPP which includes strong representation of those from the communities that we serve through our work.

Additionally, there is an Equality and Diversity Monitoring form which we ask you to consider completing. It is optional, and will not affect your application to the YPP, whether you choose to complete it or not. It is used so that CCF can monitor its own EDI policy achievement. The form can be found at [forms.gle/bT3fmQ6yP7KggNTv8](https://forms.gle/bT3fmQ6yP7KggNTv8)

Details of our data protection and privacy policies can be found at [cambscf.org.uk/policies](https://cambscf.org.uk/policies)

Successful applicants will be invited to an informal chat to discuss their experience and interest in the role further. **Interviews will be held between: Monday 22nd August 2022 and Friday 2nd September 2022.**

Thank you for your interest in the CCF YPP opportunity.