



The MCF's grants to other charities enable disadvantaged children and young people, and those in later life, to lead healthy, fulfilled lives so they may participate in society.

This is our Theory of Change that shows our pathway to achieving our goals.

MCF ACTIVITIES

- Providing small (unrestricted) and large (project) grants to support charities across England and Wales.
- Funding both new and established projects.
- Providing clear guidance, a Theory of Change document and an accessible application process, and continuously evaluating the effectiveness of our communications.
- Continuously reviewing, developing and updating our monitoring, evaluation and learning processes.
- Identifying key partners that are committed to evaluation and learning.
- Providing feedback on applications so charities can improve their fundraising practice.
- Encouraging Freemasons to become actively involved with the charities we support.
- Developing the knowledge and competencies of our staff and committee by learning from the charities we support.

Target groups

- Disadvantaged children and young people up to the age of 25
- Isolated people in later life (50+)

Target groups must experience significant disadvantage which may include disability, ill health, bereavement, family breakdown, exclusion, poverty or other vulnerability.

Accountability

We acknowledge that there are many other factors beyond our control that will contribute to the charities and beneficiaries having positive outcomes.

SHORT-TERM OUTCOMES (1 - 3 years)

Masonic Charitable Foundation

- See an improved quality of applications received.
- Become more aware of the issues central to the programme themes.
- Has an improved understanding of the needs of our target group beneficiaries and gaps in provision.
- Develops a wide portfolio of grants that include established and innovative models of support.
- Shares our learning and evidence base with the sector and masonic community.

Charities supporting target groups

- Feel supported and informed, and have received practical advice.
- Have qualified staff with the skills needed to deliver their services.
- Increase efficiency within their organisation.
- Improve their service delivery.
- Have closer links with Freemasons in their local community.

Target-group beneficiaries

- Have knowledge about their rights, options and opportunities.
- Are more engaged in physical and social activities.
- Have greater access to physical, psychological and emotional support.
- Receive more opportunities to access education and training.

LONG-TERM OUTCOMES (4 years and beyond)

Masonic Charitable Foundation

- Identifies increased understanding amongst the masonic community and wider public of how we work and the difference we make.
- Sees an increase in impact and effectiveness of our grants to address need and gaps in provision.
- Becomes an effective funder.
- Has an improved strategic alignment with funding peers to enhance sector effectiveness.

Charities supporting target groups

- Have the ability to innovate.
- Can focus on where services are most needed.
- Are sustainable and resilient.
- Have a positive perception of Freemasonry.
- Become more effective fundraisers.

Target-group beneficiaries

- Experience improved health and sense of wellbeing.
- Feel less lonely and socially isolated.
- Establish reliable and supportive networks.
- Have equal opportunities to reach their potential in early life.
- Live in a safe and stable environment.