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THE POWER OF
COMMUNITY >

Annual Review
2024/2025

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WELCOME FROM OUR CHAIR AND CEO

“Everything we do in support of our communities is only possible thanks to people like you – our generous supporters, donors and partners.”

POWERING LOCAL CHANGE

We’re delighted to share that the total funding we’ve awarded since we launched in 2002 has now topped £30 million. That’s a huge landmark for Somerset – and for us.

That’s over £30 million in the hands of Somerset’s local charities, community groups and social enterprises. Every penny has helped transform people’s lives in every community across our wonderful county.

Most of the groups we fund are small and not well known. Some we’ve funded regularly for many years, and others are new to us. They’re very diverse in their nature and their work – but the thread that unites them is that they’re led by local people for the benefit of their communities.

RESILIENT, COMMITTED AND CREATIVE

Right now, these vital groups are responding to important problems all too often overlooked in our towns and villages. Because they ‘fly close to the ground’ they’re often the first to see local problems – and find effective solutions.

They’re incredibly resilient, are always committed, and frequently entrepreneurial and creative in their approach.

Funding this work is only possible thanks to people like you – our generous supporters, donors and partners. By working together, we can achieve much more than we ever could alone.

OUR BOLD NEW STRATEGY

We’re honoured to be trusted with our vital role: building a body of local philanthropy that serves our communities today, and for generations to come.

But we can’t stand still. Building on the experience and impactful partnerships we’ve gained in the past 22 years, we’ve developed a bold new 10-year strategy. It will not only see us increase our impact but also define the Foundation we want to pass on to future generations.

Finally, we want to express our deep gratitude to our Trustees and staff who continue to go the extra mile to make sure every penny we manage makes the greatest impact. Thank you.



Michael Samuel
Michael Samuel MBE
Chair

Justin Sargent
Justin Sargent OBE DL
Chief Executive



OUR IMPACT:

THE MONEY WE RAISED

Everything we do to help build stronger communities is made possible by the incredible support of hundreds of local people, businesses, charitable trusts and partners.

Thanks to you,
we raised almost
£7 million
for our communities
last year

Over
£4.3 million
of funding
awarded

New donations
to our
endowment:
£1,945,133

6
New Funds
created for our
communities

“Working with the SCF team is always easy and informal, which is what I want. I know there’s a high degree of professionalism and diligence behind that, ensuring my giving is used ethically and as I agreed.” **John, Fundholder**

OUR 2021–25 STRATEGY: HOW DID WE DO?

In our 2021–25 strategy we set ourselves 2 ambitious goals:

Goal 1

To grow our income
and fund an extra
£1 million of grants
annually by 2025.

Result:

Our annual
grant-making grew
by over £2.5 million.

Goal 2

To raise £3 million
of new endowment
funds by 2025.

Result:

We secured £3.82 million
in new endowment funds.
Our total endowment now
stands at £11 million.

VITAL AND SUSTAINABLE FUNDING

These new endowment funds will provide a vital, sustainable source of funding for our communities at a time when demand is greater than ever. Your generosity will help passionate people in our county drive social change today and for generations to come.

As we look towards the future and our 2025–35 strategy, we have bold plans to do much more. To help more people in Somerset to thrive, unlock opportunity and support our communities to tackle the most pressing social challenges we face.

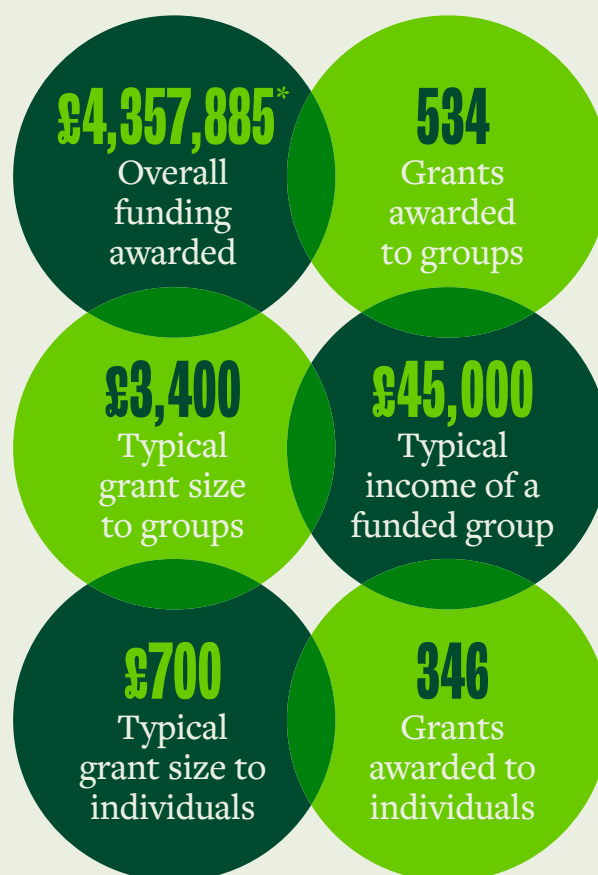
Read more about how you can join us and change the world on your doorstep on [pages 4–5](#).

OUR IMPACT:

THE PEOPLE WE FUNDED

People in any community can face hardship and disadvantage. While recognising this fact, we particularly aim to support communities facing the highest levels of local deprivation – or who are among the most isolated in our county.

- 8% of Somerset's population (47,000 people – nearly the population of Taunton) live in communities ranked among the 20% most deprived nationally (Index of Multiple Deprivation, 2025).
- This year nearly a quarter (22%) of our funding went to support them.



* Includes social investments

FUNDING GROUPS

Every amazing group we fund is different. Typically, they're about 13 years old, operate on around £45,000 a year, and are run mostly by part-time staff and volunteers.



"The process and time involved with the team getting advice and then completing the application was made simple and clear, with decisions made very quickly and great correspondence. Your support was invaluable."

1st Watchet Sea Scout Group

FUNDING INDIVIDUALS

We awarded £130,500 in nearly 350 grants through our funding programmes for individuals. These awards help people overcome financial disadvantage, access opportunities, nurture talent and realise their full potential.



"I want to extend my deepest thanks for the opportunities this grant has provided. I am truly grateful for your support and sincerely hope you can continue your valuable work and support more students like me in the future. With heartfelt thanks."

Individual funded by us

SHARING OUR DATA

We publish all our grants through 360Giving – a charity that gathers and shares grants data to help funders support good causes more effectively.



WAYS TO GIVE

If you're passionate about Somerset, we're here to help you make a lasting difference close to home. Together, we fund hundreds of local organisations and the people changing lives every day. Since 2002, we've awarded over £30 million to strengthen communities and create opportunities for everyone to thrive.

With our expert local knowledge, we make giving simple, rewarding and impactful – for individuals, businesses and charitable trusts alike.

➤ **Somerton Youth Football Club:** providing fun and inclusive sport sessions



➤ **Chard Together:** celebrating diverse cultures in our community



CHARITABLE FUNDS:

A SIMPLE ALTERNATIVE TO A CHARITABLE TRUST

Build your own Charitable Fund with our expert support and create a giving strategy that reflects your values.

Choose a Fund that suits your goals:

- **FOREVER FUND** – your gift is invested to provide sustainable funding for generations to come.
- **IMMEDIATE IMPACT FUND** – your donations are distributed straight away to where they're needed most.

We handle the administration, due diligence and reporting – so you can focus on the joy of giving.

Find out more:

somersetcf.org.uk/giving

COLLECTIVE GIVING FUNDS:

GIVE WITH OTHERS TO DRIVE CHANGE TOGETHER

Our Collective Giving Funds bring donors together to create bigger, lasting change for Somerset.

Guided by research and community insight, these Funds support local charities tackling our county's most pressing challenges.

Our Collective Giving Funds include:

- **SOMERSET YOUTH FUND** – creating brighter futures and opportunities for young people across Somerset.
- **SOMERSET OLDER PEOPLE'S FUND** – improving the lives and wellbeing of older people in Somerset.
- **SOMERSET WELLBEING FUND** – funding charities that improve local people's physical and mental health.
- **SOMERSET ENVIRONMENT FUND** – supporting projects that protect and restore Somerset's natural environment.
- **SOMERSET ARTS AND HERITAGE FUND** – helping more local people access and enjoy arts and heritage.
- **THE SOMERSET FUND** – connecting local people and businesses to small Somerset charities – boosted by 50% from Somerset Council.
- **THE SOMERSET FOREVER FUND** – investing in Somerset's future by supporting local communities for generations to come.

Find out more:

somersetcf.org.uk/together



► Pam Burrough,
SCF Fundholder and
Legacy Pledger

GIFTS IN WILLS:

COULD YOU SUPPORT SOMERSET FOR GENERATIONS TO COME?

Leaving a gift in your Will is an incredible way to change lives in Somerset.

Adding Somerset Community Foundation as a beneficiary allows us to use funds flexibly to meet local need. You can also support one of our Collective Giving Funds or set up your own bespoke Charitable Fund to support the causes or places you care about.

You can leave a gift of cash, shares or property in your Will. Plus, donating 10% or more of your net estate to charity can reduce inheritance tax on the remainder from 40% to 36%.

For a copy of our Legacy Information Pack visit somersetcf.org.uk/legacy or email: info@somersetcf.org.uk



“I am passionate about building stronger and more sustainable communities in Somerset, having lived in the county for most of my life. I wanted to leave a legacy to help with this mission and could think of no better place to leave my gift than to Somerset Community Foundation to direct it to small charities within Somerset. I wanted to rely on SCF’s knowledge and expertise to direct my gift so it makes the most impact possible over the years.”
SCF Legacy Pledger

OUR WORK WITH CHARITABLE TRUSTS

Charity Trustees with an interest in supporting Somerset often choose to give through us because of our unrivalled knowledge of local charities and in-depth understanding of local need.

For charities where Trustees are struggling to spend funds, recruit Trustees or carry out administration, we also provide a Charitable Trust Transfer Service. Many local trusts have chosen to transfer to SCF to preserve these special funds for our community and ensure their charity can carry out its objectives far into the future.



“My fellow Trustees and I decided to transfer stewardship of The Gooch Charitable Trust (Ilminster) to Somerset Community Foundation, to make the administration of the Trust as efficient as possible and ensure the funds go further in their intended purpose of positively impacting the Ilminster community for generations to come.”
Heather Virgin, Co-founder of The Gooch Trust

SUPPORTING STRONG, CONNECTED COMMUNITIES

Nurturing strong, connected communities in Somerset benefits everyone.

Evidence shows that people who live in them are healthier, more engaged in society, safer and financially better off (Local Trust, 2019). This is why helping build these communities is key to our vision at Somerset Community Foundation.

By funding groups focused on inclusion, we're helping improve health, boost community cohesion and reduce social isolation, ultimately supporting people to live better together.

COMMUNITY-BUILDING IN ACTION

This year, we've supported lots of brilliant groups who make this happen through their work every single day.

They use diverse approaches – from inspiring people to engage with the arts to holding vital community events. But their aim is the same: to connect communities and improve local people's lives.

You can hear how State of Trust builds stronger communities on the next page. Plus, over the year we've helped Fuse Performance boost community connections around art and North Curry Music Festival bring people together through music.

Our funding has fuelled Motiv8 Productions to provide safe spaces for creative expression, OSR Productions to run socially aware art projects, and Terrestrial to welcome people into warm, local spaces.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Together with our own research and insight, the relevant UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) help guide how we distribute funding and measure impact. The SDGs connect local projects to global challenges and ambitions: thinking global, acting local.



FUNDING HIGHLIGHTS

£1.4m

Overall funds
awarded

85

Grants awarded

➤ Stogursey Community Network:
bringing people in the village together



CASE STUDY: CELEBRATING DIVERSITY

How Somerset Community Foundation supported Black-led performing arts charity **State of Trust** to celebrate Black History Month in the community.



State of Trust exists to bring people together. Their aim is to build inter-ethnic cohesion and stronger communities through performing arts including dance, poetry and music. And that's just what the charity achieved through their Black History Month celebration day, highlighting African and Caribbean culture and cuisine in Taunton.

"It proved to be a transformative experience that fostered understanding, unity and appreciation of cultural diversity within the community," says State of Trust's Deborah Baddoo.

"Seeing such a range of people together highlighted the importance of cultural exchange and communal engagement in shaping a cohesive society."

Somerset Community Foundation provided a grant of £2,500 towards the event, helping cover the costs of workshop staff, music, travel and more. Overall, 131 people enjoyed the celebration.

"It was important to see everyone in a positive, inclusive environment, particularly when, in some instances, people normally experience social isolation and different backgrounds do not always intersect," says Deborah.

BREAKING DOWN STEREOTYPES

Deborah shares the story of a woman in her 70s whose social anxiety initially made her hesitant to attend. But, after encouragement from a friend, she went along and got swept up in the atmosphere.

"This experience not only lifted her spirits but also inspired her to look out for other cultural events in the community. It helped her to build confidence but also to feel a sense of community engagement," says Deborah.

These kinds of community events are incredibly important in Somerset. During increasingly divisive times, groups like State of Trust help people come together to share understanding and challenge stereotypes.

"Events such as this create an environment of mutual understanding and respect," says Deborah.

"In the current time of much division in society, initiatives rooted in cultural appreciation provide an opportunity for breaking down stereotypes and biases. The conversations arising from this event highlight shared aspirations and values, enriching the social fabric of the community."

► State of Trust: building inter-ethnic cohesion and stronger communities through performing arts



HELPING YOUNG PEOPLE BUILD A BRIGHTER FUTURE

Too many of our young people struggle with their mental health.

Sadly, in Somerset, rates of self-harm, hospital admissions for mental health problems, and drug and alcohol misuse among young people are higher than the national average (Somerset Council, 2019; 2023).

But waiting lists for treatment are as long as 258 days in some parts of our county (NHS, 2024). This puts young lives at risk. And yet providing support early can be the key to a brighter future. That's why mental health is such an important part of the work we fund.

Improving mental health leads to better school attendance, better life chances and reduces harmful behaviours like smoking (Paull and Xu, 2017). Plus, it also reduces the chance of becoming mentally ill in later life (Jones, 2013).

CHANGING YOUNG LIVES

We're proud to fund many vital groups dedicated to supporting young people that might not have anywhere else to turn. You can read about the incredible difference In Charley's Memory have made on the next page.

Plus, over the year we've also funded 2BU Somerset to support LGBTQ+ youth and Awe and Wonder to run creative play sessions for local families. We helped FordHaven support care-experienced children, Move the Mind Foundation nurture young people and PROMISEworks to provide vital one-to-one mentoring to disadvantaged children and young people across the county.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



FUNDING HIGHLIGHTS

£0.95m

Overall funding
awarded

65

Grants awarded

► Burnham BMX Club:
gearing up for fun in Somerset



CASE STUDY: SAVING LIVES THROUGH EXPERT SUPPORT

In Charley's Memory supports young people's mental health across Somerset, helped by a £6,081 grant from Bishop Fox's Educational Foundation.

"It isn't dramatic to say that we save lives because we see people at some of their lowest points – sometimes suicidal," says Jamie Scanlon, Chief Operating Officer of In Charley's Memory.

"They might be extremely depressed. Or going through a terrible bereavement. There's definitely people who wouldn't be here if we hadn't been around to help them."

In Charley's Memory is here because the young person who the charity is named after isn't. Charley struggled with his mental health for most of his adolescence. Sadly, he died by suicide in 2014.

Today, In Charley's Memory is making a difference to children and young people's mental health in his name.

The charity works with counsellors and student counsellors from across Somerset to provide specialist support.

"It's low-cost support that carries on as long as the young person needs it," says Jamie.

"Demand is high – we already support 250 people a week, with 100 more on our waiting list."

SUPPORTING YOUNG PEOPLE

To help meet this demand for mental health support Somerset Community Foundation has helped fund the charity's services for schools.

"We're getting asked to increase our presence in schools all the time," says Jamie.

"The schools are all trying their absolute best and we have the expertise to support their work. Schools are really the first port of call for mental health at the moment, which is very difficult for them. So we offer that extra level of professional help."

Part of this work is solution-focused therapy to help young people navigate school life. Jamie shares the story of one girl who really struggled to stay on task and was often getting sent out of lessons.

"When we first met her, she wasn't able to stay in a lesson for the whole thing without something happening," says Jamie.

"But through the therapy she came in for a year and attended all but a couple of her sessions. And when she left, she had secured herself an apprenticeship at Hinkley Point C and went off to do that. That's nice to see: young people go from thinking they wouldn't be able to do anything at all to doing something they're really excited about."

"It was really exciting for us too."

► In Charley's Memory: supporting young people through tough times



IMPROVING HEALTH AND WELLBEING

It's not just our county's young people who face a mental health crisis.

Adults in Somerset are nearly a quarter (23%) more likely to die by suicide than adults in England as a whole. Men are particularly at risk – 2.5 times more likely to die by suicide than women (Office for Health Improvements and Disparities, 2022).

The number of local people reporting a long-term mental health condition has risen from 3% to 14% since 2018 (GP Patient Survey, 2024). Meanwhile, Somerset residents are waiting nearly 20 days longer than other adults in England to get vital treatment (NHS, 2024).

TAKING A NATURAL APPROACH

Statistics like these show why mental health and wellbeing is at the core of our work at Somerset Community Foundation.

One approach proven to boost wellbeing and reduce stress is time spent in green spaces (Mental Health Foundation, 2021): a resource Somerset is rich in. This year we're proud to support many brilliant groups who show how nature can soothe bodies and minds. One of them is The Growing Space – you can read all about their impressive work on the next page.

Plus, we've supported Art Experience Days CIC to provide specialist art sessions, Chard Watch CIO to run peer support for isolated adults and Community Counselling CIC to cover inclusive counselling across Somerset.

Our funding also helped Headway Somerset care for people with head injuries, Root Connections make green spaces more accessible and Somerset and Avon Rape and Sexual Abuse Support continue their life-changing work.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



FUNDING HIGHLIGHTS

£1.1m

Overall funding
awarded

49

Grants awarded

➤ Ark at Egwood: helping people connect outdoors



CASE STUDY: GROWING SUPPORT

How a grant of £2,500 from **The Somerset Fund** supported local charity The Growing Space to cultivate wellbeing in Wincanton.

“What we really want more than anything else is for everyone to live happy, healthy and fulfilling lives,” says Nick Truman from The Growing Space.

“The way we go about that is to provide social and therapeutic horticulture and nature-based activities in a safe, supportive and participatory environment.”

This means welcoming a whole range of diverse people to The Balsam Centre in Wincanton to get involved in growing and tending the garden. Together they produce flowers, fruit and vegetables, and care for the town-centre green space. This helps promote self-reflection and social skills while addressing barriers to health, employment and being part of the community.

People with complex mental and physical health needs might be referred by their GP – but everyone is welcome.

OPEN TO EVERYONE

“We very much provide universal activities open to anyone,” says Nick.

“It means people don’t feel stigmatised when they first join in. Our practitioners and volunteers can then offer extra support to those who need it. It’s often the universal activities that have the greatest impact in terms of destigmatising health conditions.”

The staff are experts at guiding conversations so they can chat through problems, gently allowing people to express themselves. Sometimes they realise that visitors who’ve arrived have significant issues and can offer support.

Nick says that the grant from Somerset Community Foundation has helped fund the charity’s cut flower workshops and fuelled plans to host more weekend and evening activities featuring art and mindfulness.



THE POWER OF NOTICING NATURE

The experience of simply noticing nature can have a profound effect. Nick shares the story of someone living with a life-threatening illness who joined one of the charity’s activity groups.

“They were able to sit for 40 minutes just watching a corner of a piece of woodland in the spring, watching busy bees, busy butterflies, ants on the floor, the wind and the sound of the birds,” he says.

“And they said that having not stopped for the last 20 years it was the first time they hadn’t looked at their watch and wished the day away.”

➤ The Growing Space: showcasing how nature can help people heal



SUPPORTING OLDER PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITIES

Sadly, not everyone gets an equal chance to age well in Somerset.

In some of our most deprived communities older people are spending up to 14 years longer in ill-health than in more affluent areas (NHS, 2023). It's data like this that makes supporting older people such a vital part of our work.

Dementia is a growing challenge. Last year we commissioned research into how to better support our older people which featured groups who work with dementia.

According to Somerset Council (2016), there were an estimated 6,500 people caring for someone with dementia in Somerset, with around 3,500 new cases predicted in 2025.

That's why we fund expert organisations helping people face up to this challenge. You can read about one of them, Sounds Joyful, on the next page. Plus, we've also funded inspiring groups like Blackdown Support Group, Geranium Trust, Good Fellowship Club and Porlock Vale CIC to support and connect our older people and their carers.

► Bulford Senior Citizens: bringing people together at Christmas with our Festive Fund for Somerset



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



FUNDING HIGHLIGHTS

£0.8m

Overall funding awarded

40

Grants awarded

CASE STUDY: AMPLIFYING VOICES

How a grant of £4,851 from **The Field House Trust Fund** helped Sounds Joyful CIC create safe spaces bringing people together through sound and music.

“I think that music’s a great leveller – it gives everybody a voice,” says Emma Wheat, co-founder of Sounds Joyful.

“When you create a safe space and give people the opportunity to make music, it’s a collective experience that builds empathy. It’s amazing to witness. We don’t ‘deliver’ something to people. We’re all part of a community that creates something special together.”

Emma explains that Sounds Joyful offers something much deeper than “a community singalong”, providing engaging and accessible sound and music sessions for people of all ages and abilities. These could feature everything from sound baths and vocal improvisations to coming together for 90s pop-rave anthem ‘Pump Up the Jam’.

COMMUNITY AND CONNECTIONS

The project was inspired by the insight that music sessions were often segregated into groups featuring people with a particular need. Instead, Sounds Joyful is open to everyone, allowing expert facilitators to create spaces where people are valued equally and can connect.

“We have a real mixture of people,” says Emma.

“That could be people living with dementia, people with learning disabilities and their carers, to students from local primary schools and specialist schools.

“We find that the greater the mix of people, abilities and ages, the more incredible the outcome. People have a lovely time making music – but the

community and connections that are created go so far beyond anything imaginable.”

GROWING SUCCESS

Emma has many success stories from the sessions. These include initially avoidant teenagers choosing to lead songs, nonspeaking attendees finding ways to express themselves and a volunteer living with long Covid finding hope and community.

Emma says that the grant “helped us get to a place where the session was self-funding and helped us to grow.”

Sounds Joyful is already moving to bigger, more inclusive spaces, like Wells Cathedral. This draws in those who wouldn’t necessarily use a community centre – and helps bring more people into the magic.

“One of the activities we do is a percussion orchestra where we work with whatever’s in the moment,” says Emma.

“And yesterday I could really see the empathy build between the group as we played. It was magical.”

► Sounds Joyful: making magic through inclusive music



SOMERSET SOCIAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

Our Somerset Social Investment Programme fuels the growth of local charities and social enterprises through a tailored approach that blends loans and grants.

It helps groups boost income by selling their goods and services. They repay the loan (but not the grant) which we can then reinvest in other good causes.

This programme is made possible by funding from Somerset Council.

Through it we award groups in Somerset from £10,000 to £40,000 to:

- buy equipment or property
- access working capital (money to cover day-to-day expenses) while they grow
- cover any shortfall for a short time.

➤ Stogumber Community Shop



➤ Root Connections



FUNDING COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

One of the highlights of last year was providing a £20,000 loan and £10,000 grant to help fit out Stogumber Community Shop.

This exciting opportunity came after village residents raised an impressive £188,000 through a community shares initiative, ensuring their rural village continues to have access to a vital community shop.

We know these cherished community hubs are the heart and soul of their villages. Their survival and success stand as a testament to the power of local determination and collaboration.

We also provided a £30,000 bridging loan for Root Connections, a local sustainability and social change project, to help develop their on-site community hub. We look forward to supporting many more impactful community projects in the future.

SURVIVING WINTER

Many older people in Somerset faced a stark choice last winter: heating their homes or eating.

Inflation sent fuel bills skyrocketing as food prices spiked. And changes to who got the Winter Fuel Payment left even more of Somerset's older people struggling.

This meant our Surviving Winter Grants were more important than ever. Through money donated by our generous local community, each grant helped vulnerable, low-income older people stay warm and well during the coldest months.

SUPPORTING VULNERABLE PEOPLE

Over the year we raised £97,000 and gave 459 grants of an average £238 to older people in need.

Alongside providing Surviving Winter Grants to individual Somerset residents, your generous donations have:

- Funded over 50 Festive Fund grants to help local community groups provide Christmas meals, activities, gifts or hampers to older people experiencing poverty or isolation.
- Funded a pilot programme to help over 500 fuel-poor households through a Home Energy Advice Service, which provides comprehensive home visits. These visits helped older people access cheaper energy tariffs and make practical home improvements to reduce their energy use. They also received gifted items such as slow cookers, heated throws, thick curtains and heated airers.
- Helped vulnerable older people get specialist advice and support on debt, benefits and other household needs.

Your donations make a huge difference in reducing financial pressures and improving local people's wellbeing. With your support, we'll keep working to make sure our most vulnerable older neighbours stay warm, safe and well.

Donate: somersetcf.org.uk/winter



CAROL'S STORY

"My condition is terrible all year round, but worse in winter. I'm at home all day and it gets really, really cold. You need heat, you need to be able to dry clothes on the radiators and get on with your life."

"We were really grateful for the Surviving Winter Grant. The money basically saved us. It's just one less thing to worry about."



Surviving
Winter



FOUNDATION GRANTS MADE TO ORGANISATIONS DURING 2024/25

SUPPORTING STRONG, CONNECTED COMMUNITIES

Grants over £2,000	Project description	Amount
Albermarle Centre (2 grants)	Supporting members of the local community who needed extra help during winter.	£25,000
Art Care Education	Providing a warm space, comfort, company and creative opportunities for people in need during winter.	£5,000
Ashill Village Hall Committee (2 grants)	Repainting the outside of the hall following water damage and providing a Christmas lunch.	£5,540
Black Artists on the Move	Providing culturally appropriate gatherings and activities to unite and uplift Somerset's Black diaspora.	£11,000
Bowmen of Danesfield	Updating storage facilities for this community archery club in Williton.	£10,000
Brent Knoll Community Shop Limited (2 grants)	Helping outfit a volunteer-led community shop in Brent Knoll.	£6,000
Broadway and Horton Cricket Club	Building new changing rooms so that women and girls have their own facilities and further improving the club house and toilets.	£10,000
Brompton Regis Village Shop	Helping pay utility bills for the village shop – which have increased dramatically in recent years.	£5,000
Burnham and Highbridge Community Association	Helping open the community centre on Sunday and providing a free hot Sunday lunch for 50 people plus a space to socialise for the afternoon.	£18,000
Cannington United Reformed Church (2 grants)	Supporting warm space drop-in sessions and a food pantry for local people.	£2,100
Cary Cares	Providing emergency support to children, families and people living alone in Castle Cary and Ansford.	£5,000
Caryford Community Hall	Helping cover the increased core costs of a larger building.	£10,000
Chard CommuniTea Waffle (3 grants)	Opening a family-friendly community café to reduce isolation for all ages and encouraging healthy eating.	£10,400
Chard Community Hub (4 grants)	Supporting the community and offering activities for groups in Chard.	£33,400
Citizens Advice Somerset (4 grants)	Increasing advisory teams' capacity as well as developing community-based support for people's housing and wellbeing needs.	£300,083
Climate Action Taunton	Offering energy-saving advice and practical help for households experiencing fuel poverty.	£4,500
Compass Disability Services (2 grants)	Providing a warm space through the winter for anyone struggling financially or without the means to keep themselves warm.	£3,090
Connect Community Church, Wells (3 grants)	Supporting the community over winter and offering facilities for homeless people.	£23,400
Crewkerne Community Kitchen (2 grants)	Offering Winter Warmer cooking sessions and a chat café.	£5,400
Curry Mallet & Beercrocombe Village Hall	Installing solar panels on a village hall in Curry Mallet to boost sustainability.	£2,500
Devon Community Foundation	Providing Old Mill Fund grants in Devon.	£3,300
Diversity Voice	Contributing towards a weekly group in Taunton to combat discrimination.	£2,500
Donate IT	Supplying digital devices to people in Somerset struggling with digital poverty.	£5,000
Dorset Community Foundation	Hunts Food Group Dorset grants.	£19,250
Eco Centre CBS Limited	Contributing to an outreach project in Bridgwater promoting energy and cost saving.	£5,000
Edventure Frome	Supporting an Enterprising Women Course, developing a new Community Fridge site and a MAKE Shed for disadvantaged people.	£4,000
Frome Community Productions CIC	Funding Studio in a Bag equipment so the group can offer media training to more people.	£2,500
FusePerformance (2 grants)	Contributing to a popular community arts event in Bridgwater.	£7,180
Glastonbury Repair Café	Supporting the local Repair Café and Re-use Hub.	£5,000
Growing Space (3 grants)	Helping cover the core costs of running social and therapeutic gardening groups.	£5,500
Ilminster Bowling and Tennis Club	Installing new LED floodlights on 3 tennis courts to boost energy efficiency.	£5,000
Knights Templar School and Community Association (2 grants)	Refurbishing a well-used community swimming pool in Watchet.	£5,000
Langport Church Community Trust (2 grants)	Supporting members of the local community who need extra help during winter.	£8,250
Long Sutton Village Hall	Providing suitable changing facilities for all ages, abilities and genders.	£2,500
Love Community CIC	Supporting vulnerable members of the local community who need extra help during winter.	£20,000
Mendip Community Credit Union	Supporting members of the local community who need extra help during winter.	£5,000
Mingle Bristol CIC (3 grants)	Developing a community café in Bridgwater.	£13,400
Motiv8 Productions	Involving people of all ages, including those experiencing isolation, in theatre productions in Yeovil.	£2,500
North Curry Music Festival	Contributing to a community music festival in North Curry.	£2,500
North Petherton Community Centre	Contributing to repairing a community centre roof in North Petherton.	£10,000
North Taunton Partnership (5 grants)	Providing core costs for a community centre supporting the community in a deprived area of Taunton.	£26,700
OSR Projects Art & Culture CIC	Supporting the social and mental wellbeing of the local community through pottery and ceramics sessions.	£2,480
Parochial Church Council of Lydford-on-Fosse	Expanding a local car park and providing extra parking space including disabled parking.	£2,500
Pawlett Village Hall	Contributing to community events in Pawlett.	£2,500
Quartet Community Foundation (4 grants)	Grant making in Bristol, BANES, South Gloucestershire and North Somerset on behalf of SCF fundholders.	£228,643
Red Brick Building (2 grants)	Supporting members of the local community who need extra help during winter.	£23,500
Reimagining the Levels	Funding a project organiser to support tree-planting initiatives across the county.	£6,739

SUPPORTING STRONG, CONNECTED COMMUNITIES Continued

Grants over £2,000	Project description	Amount
Sedgemoor Community Partnership (3 grants)	Providing vital support services for people in Highbridge.	£32,760
Shepton Mallet Town Council	Helping set up a new community volunteer car transport scheme in the town.	£5,000
Somerset Community Credit Union	Supporting members of the local community who need extra help during winter.	£20,000
South Somerset Astronomical Society	Renovating and enhancing the Solar Model along the Taunton-Bridgwater Canal.	£2,500
St George's Wembdon, Parish Centre	Helping fund essential refurbishments for a Sedgemoor community centre.	£6,000
St George's Wilton Taunton	Contributing to new kitchen equipment in a church community hub near Taunton.	£2,500
St Mary's Church, Ilminster	Repairing pinnacles and stonework in the historic tower.	£20,606
St Peter's Community Centre	Supporting members of the local community who need extra help during winter.	£15,000
State of Trust (2 grants)	Funding a community celebration to mark Black History Month in Taunton as well as mental health support workshops.	£7,450
Stogursey Community Network (2 grants)	Extending opening times for safe, warm spaces and a range of vital social activities connecting the community.	£5,500
Stogursey Football Club	Buying an essential new team shelter for the West Somerset football club.	£6,500
Stoke St Gregory Recreation and Playing Field	Funding a play space designed with local young people to improve the physical and mental wellbeing of everyone in the community.	£2,500
Sustainable Frome	Contributing to admin costs for the Transition Streets community development project in Frome.	£2,500
Taunton Area Debt Advice	Covering recruitment and training costs for new and existing debt advisors to support people facing financial problems.	£2,500
Taunton East Development Trust	Supporting members of the local community who need extra help during winter.	£20,000
Taunton Pride	Contributing to booking LGBTQ+ acts and performers for Taunton Pride.	£2,500
Taunton Street Pastors	Supporting running costs of the Bridgwater Street Pastors.	£15,000
Terrestrial	Organising and hosting a series of arts activities in libraries across Somerset to welcome people into warm spaces.	£20,000
The Balsam Centre (3 grants)	Helping support individuals and families in Wincanton and the surrounding rural area.	£23,890
The Charltons Community Centre Trust	Installing a ramp and handrail to enable accessible entry for all centre users.	£2,168
The Good Heart Frome (2 grants)	Supporting members of the local community who need extra help during winter.	£25,000
The Hub at Bridgwater (2 grants)	Contributing towards planning costs of relocating a vital Bridgwater community hub.	£13,000
The Meeting House Arts Centre	Installing a modern automated fire detection system.	£4,453
The Old Stores Studio	Providing a warm space and extra support for people suffering fuel poverty, plus encouraging art and craft for wellbeing.	£4,000
The Rubbish Art Project	Providing a warm and welcoming space for people in Shepton Mallet who need extra support during cold weather.	£17,500
The Thomas Poole Library Nether Stowey (2 grants)	Contributing to core costs for a vital community venue in Nether Stowey.	£5,500
The Waffle Hub (2 grants)	Opening The Waffle Hub as a designated warm space for an extra day – so it's there for the local community 4 days a week.	£26,250
The Warehouse Trust	Providing a Community Hub to help people in Langport access local services and improve health and wellbeing.	£3,000
This Living Place (2 grants)	Expanding community consultations, strengthening collaborations and raising local awareness and engagement to bring communities together.	£7,000
Victoria Park Community Centre (3 grants)	Helping refurbish and develop this essential Bridgwater community centre.	£57,977
Wedmore Village Farm	Developing a Care/Social Farm Project for adults with learning disabilities.	£2,500
Wellington Community Food	Covering costs for a coordinator to enable more disadvantaged people to benefit from growing food.	£4,000
Wembdon Village Hall & Playing Fields Trust	Building a new wing featuring 2 changing rooms and a store room for local players.	£100,000
Williton Allotments	Developing facilities at a local community allotment in Williton.	£10,000
Wiltshire Community Foundation	Providing Old Mill Fund grants in Wiltshire.	£3,300
Women's Work Lab	Supporting disadvantaged women with children into meaningful jobs.	£27,000
Yeast Scrapstore Ltd	Running craft workshops for people in the Glastonbury/Street area using donated recycled materials.	£3,000
Yeovil Art Space	Supporting members of the local community who need extra help during winter.	£12,500

IMPROVING HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Grants over £2,000	Project description	Amount
Adventure Therapy	Offering inclusive outdoor experiences to support adults with learning disabilities to develop essential workplace skills.	£47,288
Arc	Supporting vulnerable people into independent living by buying essential items like carpets and white goods.	£5,000
Art Experience Days CIC	Providing bespoke art experience days to vulnerable people in the Wells area.	£4,900
Bournemouth Churches Housing Association	Supporting vulnerable people into independent living by buying essential items like carpets and white goods.	£5,000
Brainwave	Supporting members of the local community who need extra help during winter.	£10,000
Chard WATCH (3 grants)	Offering support services for people with mental health problems in the Chard area.	£15,500
CHARIS (5 grants)	Providing support and activities for asylum seekers in the Taunton area.	£34,770
Community Counselling CIC	Providing counselling for adults in Somerset.	£5,000
Create & Thrive	Providing a warm space for people experiencing poverty and deprivation in Glastonbury and Somerton.	£5,000
Crispin Hall Trust (2 grants)	Supporting members of the local community who need extra help during the winter.	£20,400
Discovery	Developing a vital supported employment service for adults with learning disabilities in Somerset.	£436,000
ESS Education and Support Services (2 grants)	Providing cooking and budgeting workshops for disadvantaged people in a deprived area of Highbridge.	£2,300
Fair Frome	Supporting members of the local community who need extra help during winter.	£20,000
Frome Birth Talk (3 grants)	Providing support groups for new parents in the Frome area.	£8,250
Glastonbury Mental Health Network (2 grants)	Developing activities and support for people experiencing homelessness and mental health issues.	£7,000
Hardknox boxing CIC (2 grants)	Contributing to equipment for a community sports club in Highbridge.	£9,950
Headway Somerset	Supporting core costs to support work with people facing mental ill health, loneliness and isolation caused by acquired brain injuries in Somerset.	£2,500
Julian House	Supporting vulnerable people into independent living by buying essential items like carpets and white goods.	£15,000
Love Glastonbury	Running a community fridge and pantry in Glastonbury.	£6,000
Loveable CIC (3 grants)	Creating social networks for adults with learning disabilities and autism in Bridgwater and Taunton.	£15,900
MC Inspired Together	Providing hot meals for vulnerable people and migrants on a limited budget who are finding it difficult to afford everyday essentials.	£3,000
Mind in Somerset (2 grants)	Developing a safe youth space in Yeovil and supporting the wider community over winter.	£30,000
Moorland Food Bank (2 grants)	Providing emergency food parcels for disadvantaged people and families in the rural Dulverton area with limited access to transport.	£9,000
Neroche Woodlanders Ltd	Providing woodland-based nature/wellbeing and mental health support, plus hot food, for adults and families from around Taunton.	£9,500
OpenStoryTellers (3 grants)	Running a community hub and developing self-advocacy for adults with learning disabilities and autism across Somerset.	£55,695
Root Connections (3 grants)	Providing social and therapeutic gardening sessions for people experiencing homelessness, poor mental health or addiction in Mendip.	£15,400
Rusty Road to Recovery (2 grants)	Supporting vulnerable adults, especially those with mental health and isolation issues, in a warm, supportive space in Bridgwater.	£3,400
Second Step	Supporting vulnerable people into independent living by buying essential items like carpets and white goods.	£7,500
Somerset and Avon Rape and Sexual Abuse Support	Supporting members of the local community who need extra help during winter.	£20,000
Somerset Art Works	Covering core costs for an online art group to continue, while extending its impact and reach with more people by producing a video.	£5,000
Somerset Counselling Centre	Covering running costs for Art Heals group therapy sessions.	£4,444
Somerset Cricket Foundation	Contributing to promoting and playing accessible cricket in community cricket clubs across Sedgemoor.	£50,000
Somerset Sight	Supporting members of the local community who need extra help during winter.	£20,000
Spark Somerset (2 grants)	Delivering Live Well in Somerset – a celebration of Social Prescribing.	£6,000
St Benedict's Church, Glastonbury (2 grants)	Providing a warm space for the community offering refreshments, activities, device charging, workspace and social space.	£8,000
St Mary's, Bridgwater	Contributing to a wellbeing project coordinator in Bridgwater.	£35,400
SWCP United	Supporting core costs to grow a Somerset football club for players living with Cerebral Palsy.	£9,000
SWEDA	Helping fund one-to-one specialist therapeutic support for 5 adults affected by eating disorders in Somerset.	£4,721
Sweet Track Counselling Agency CIC	Helping cover core costs for counselling services aimed at people who need mental health support in and around Glastonbury.	£4,220
Talk Club	Setting up talking, listening and exercise groups to support men's mental health across Somerset.	£5,000
Taunton Welcomes Refugees (2 grants)	Offering a warm and welcoming space for refugees and asylum seekers.	£5,750
The Nelson Trust (4 grants)	Supporting vulnerable women to recover from substance abuse in Bridgwater.	£50,000
The Open Door Taunton	Covering staff costs to support people experiencing homelessness in Taunton.	£16,750
The Valley Kings Foundation	Contributing towards equipment and salary costs for a Bridgwater boxing and martial arts charity.	£10,000
Towards Tomorrow Together	Supporting Somerset families experiencing the death of a baby.	£5,000
Westfield United Reformed Church, Bridgwater (2 grants)	Providing people experiencing homelessness with a free warm, safe space, hot food and drinks, showers, clothing and a place to do laundry.	£13,300
Windsor Hill Wood (2 grants)	Offering residential support for adults with a history of offending to reintegrate into the community in Shepton Mallet.	£9,900
Wivey Kitchen CIO (2 grants)	Providing more food, including nutritious frozen meals in the Pantry, for local people unable to cook for themselves.	£9,300
Yeovil Community Church (2 grants)	Supporting the local homeless population throughout the colder months.	£20,300

SUPPORTING OLDER PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITIES

Grants over £2,000	Project description	Amount
Age UK Somerset (4 grants)	Providing direct financial support to help older people stay warm over the winter.	£28,700
ARK at Egwood (2 grants)	Running the Bridgwater Armed Forces Hub to support veterans and their families in the community.	£110,652
Axe Valley Men's Shed	Making this community venue supporting men's mental health and reducing loneliness more accessible for everyone.	£2,500
Blackdown Support Group (2 grants)	Supporting members of the local community who need extra help during the winter.	£9,500
Centre for Sustainable Energy	Providing direct financial support to help older people stay warm over the winter.	£11,000
Community Council for Somerset (3 grants)	Providing direct financial support to help older people stay warm over the winter, plus multicultural events.	£43,000
Defence Medical Welfare Service	Offering a Welfare Support and Referral Service for the Armed Forces community in Somerset.	£5,000
Enmore Memorial Hall	Contributing to updating facilities at Enmore Memorial Hall.	£6,070
Frome and District Day Centre	Helping cover the core running costs of a day centre supporting the area's older people.	£4,000
Geranium Trust	Helping cover the core costs of providing welcoming community events to reduce isolation in Stoford near Yeovil.	£2,500
Glastonbury (Wyrall Park) Bowls	Making building improvements to enable comfortable changing facilities for club members and visiting teams.	£2,500
Good Fellowship Club	Helping cover community bus transport costs so that older people who find it hard to get around can access the club.	£5,000
Got Your Six UK CIC	Providing a warm space and a hot meal for the community, plus transport for isolated local people.	£10,000
Health Connections Mendip (Frome Medical Practice CIC)	Providing direct financial support to help older people stay warm over the winter.	£28,600
Henhayes Centre (2 grants)	Contributing towards core costs of running a centre supporting isolated older people in Crewkerne.	£8,000
Homes in Sedgemoor	Funding to distribute Surviving Winter Grants to vulnerable older people.	£16,500
LiveWest Homes	Funding to distribute Surviving Winter Grants to vulnerable older people.	£2,500
Make the Sunshine CIC (2 grants)	To create a bespoke Creative Connections toolkit and service (both physical and virtual) for local carers in the Mendips.	£3,400
MHA Communities Mendip (3 grants)	Offering vital support and activities for older people in the Mendip area.	£5,000
MHA Communities South Somerset (5 grants)	Providing support and activities for older people in the South Somerset area.	£23,473
Museum To You CIC (2 grants)	Bringing museum artefacts and social history to life for care home residents and people with learning disabilities across Mendip.	£3,380
Porlock Vale CIC (3 grants)	Reducing isolation and connecting older people in Porlock Vale.	£8,500
Reminiscence Learning (3 grants)	Supporting people living with dementia and their carers in the Wellington area.	£17,900
Social Circles	Improving mental wellbeing and reducing isolation for financially distressed older people in Somerset.	£5,000
Sounds Joyful CIC	Offering interactive music sessions for local people in Glastonbury – including those living with dementia.	£4,851
South Somerset Community Accessible Transport	Contributing to the core costs of running a community transport service for people who find it hard to get about.	£5,000
SSAFA Somerset	Providing Surviving Winter Grants to armed forces veterans.	£6,600
St George's Church, Wilton (2 grants)	Providing food and building community among isolated and elderly people in Taunton.	£6,000
St Margaret's Hospice (3 grants)	Helping fund community nurses in Sedgemoor and West Somerset to provide comfort and care at the end of people's lives.	£187,294
Taunton Theatre Association Ltd	Providing a warm space and low-cost hot meals to the local community.	£3,500
Timberscombe Parish Council	Exploring options for adult social care in the Timberscombe area.	£3,000
Wedmore Tuesday Club	Covering core costs for an older people's friendship club bringing the community together in a rural area.	£2,200
Wells Community Network	Exploring options for adult social care in the Wells area.	£3,000
West Somerset Green Forum (Forum 21)	Providing Surviving Winter Grants to older people experiencing fuel poverty.	£11,000
Weston Hospicecare	Funding community nurses in Sedgemoor to help provide comfort and care at the end of people's lives.	£150,000
Williton Parish Council	Helping provide a welcoming venue for community lunches and contributing to the cost of food.	£5,000
Wincanton Cares	Exploring options for adult social care in the Wincanton area.	£3,000
Wiveliscombe Area Partnership	Helping cover community transport scheme costs so people can better get about in a rural area.	£5,000
Wivey Cares (4 grants)	Supporting members of the local community who need extra help during winter.	£22,000
Yeovil Shopmobility	Contributing towards the core costs of running a vital mobility hire service.	£3,000

HELPING YOUNG PEOPLE BUILD A BRIGHTER FUTURE

Grants over £2,000	Project description	Amount
1st Huntspill and Highbridge Scout Group	Providing camp equipment for a Highbridge-based local Scout group.	£8,880
1st Watchet Sea Scout Group (2 grants)	Contributing to new boat storage and changing facilities for the Watchet Sea Scouts.	£12,500
2BU Somerset	Offering outreach for isolated LGBTQ+ young people in Somerset.	£4,000
Arts Taunton (2 grants)	Creating opportunities for Taunton's most disadvantaged young people to be involved in Taunton Youth Culture and Arts Festival 2025.	£7,500
Awe and Wonder	Providing a warm creative space that improves wellbeing and early support for families with young children.	£3,000
BIBIC	Subsidising costs for low-income Somerset families to access disability assessments, therapy plans and key working support.	£5,000
Bishop Fox's School	Subsidising places on school trips and activities for students from low-income families.	£10,000
Bridgwater Division Guides Association	Buying new camping equipment for the Bridgwater Division of Girlguiding.	£2,415
Children's World (2 grants)	Supporting an event offering accessible, high-quality creative activities for disadvantaged children in Glastonbury.	£8,900
Churchfield Friends & Community	Contributing to a Forest School Shelter for the community to use in Highbridge.	£9,000
Court Fields School	Providing a Level 2 Production Chef Apprenticeship salary for a young person with additional needs.	£9,216
Creative Innovation Centre	Providing a safe and warm space for young people during the winter months and creative activities to support health and wellbeing.	£5,000
DofE Somerset Committee	Supporting a bursary fund for disadvantaged young people from Taunton Deane.	£20,000
Engineering Development Trust	Supporting disadvantaged young people in Somerset West and Taunton to reach their potential in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).	£4,250
Escapeline (2 grants)	Providing a vital education and mentoring programme in schools across Somerset to prevent county lines exploitation.	£16,000
Evolve Music	Offering community music programmes for disadvantaged families in Yeovil offering connection, creativity and support.	£5,000
Exmoor Community Youth Club	Funding core costs for a vital rural youth club.	£3,000
Fight Against Blindness	Offering mental health support for children and young people with sight loss in Somerset.	£4,000
FordHaven (3 grants)	Supporting members of the local community, including vulnerable young people, who need extra help during winter.	£15,400
Guildhall Young Artists Taunton	Supporting the Performing Arts Bursary Programme which helps young people realise their potential.	£20,000
Home-Start West Somerset	Supporting members of the local community who need extra help during winter.	£20,000
I Can and I Am	Funding resources and staff so that essential self-belief workshops continue in schools across Somerset.	£2,500
In Charley's Memory (2 grants)	Providing essential mental health support for young people in the Burnham and Highbridge areas.	£11,081
In the Mix Youth Project (6 grants)	Supporting important youth work with disadvantaged young people in Wiveliscombe.	£18,847
Kingsmead School	Supporting alternative provision to better engage pupils in school life and reduce the risk of permanent exclusion.	£10,000
Life Education Wessex	Delivering workshops in schools to help prevent drinking, smoking and substance misuse by young people.	£2,345
Minehead EYE (2 grants)	Supporting members of the local community who need extra help during winter.	£21,250
Monkton Wood Academy	To embed a youth worker at the school and support low-income pupils to access additional support and enrichment activities including school trips.	£13,618
Moor Outdoor CIC	Setting up a weekly cycling club for children with additional needs in the Minehead area.	£4,000
Move the Mind Foundation CIO	Supporting horse therapy sessions for disadvantaged young people in Mendip.	£3,000
Octagon Theatre	Contributing to 4 creative PlayDay events for children in South Somerset.	£2,500
Prodigal Bikes	Providing bicycle accessory packs for refugees in Somerset and contributing to a management training course.	£3,000
PROMISEworks (2 grants)	Covering core costs for a vital mentoring service for young people across Somerset.	£27,000
Purple Elephant Family Support (3 grants)	Supporting members of the local community who need extra help during the winter and creating a new youth club.	£15,742
Pyrland School	Developing a sustainable programme for students who are often suspended from school and risk permanent exclusion.	£10,000
Quantock Orienteers	Increasing orienteering participation in Sedgemoor District and the Quantocks.	£3,460
ROC Taunton Deane (2 grants)	Supporting a parenting course for struggling families with children between 0-4 years old in Taunton.	£10,000
Sense	Supporting specialist multisensory teaching for children in Somerset who are deafblind or who have complex disabilities for greater inclusion.	£2,500
Somerset Activity and Sports Partnership (2 grants)	Supporting sports-based mentoring for care leavers and delegated grants to support communities over the winter.	£227,440
Somerset Council	Offering transport solutions so care leavers can access education or employment, wellbeing activities or visit family.	£90,000
Somerset Youth Theatre CIC (5 grants)	Supporting children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities to get involved in community youth theatre groups across Somerset.	£20,201
Somerset Youth Volunteer Network	Creating warm, welcoming spaces where people can connect and get help.	£10,000
South Barrow Recreation Trust (2 grants)	Funding playground equipment for young children in a rural area.	£19,966
Spirit Gymnastics Academy Ltd	Enabling disadvantaged children in Yeovil to compete in countrywide gymnastics competitions.	£5,000
Stacked Wonky (2 grants)	Helping young people develop social wellbeing and skills in rurally-isolated West Somerset.	£17,500

HELPING YOUNG PEOPLE BUILD A BRIGHTER FUTURE Continued

Grants over £2,000	Project description	Amount
Stand Against Racism & Inequality	Supporting hate crime education for school children in Somerset.	£5,000
Stand Against Violence (3 grants)	Providing anti-violence workshops focusing on de-escalation and personal safety skills for young people across Somerset.	£12,000
Taunton Adventurous Sports & Canoe Club (TASCC)	Helping cover the annual licence fee for operating at the Centre for Outdoor Activity and Community Hub in French Weir Park, Taunton.	£2,500
Taunton Opportunity Group	Supporting new stay and play sessions for 5–18 year olds with complex needs in the Taunton area.	£4,000
The Castle School	Supporting low-income pupils to attend school trips during the school year.	£10,000
The Community Youth Project (Somerset)	Helping fund youth service provision for young people aged 11–17 living in Creech St Michael, Ruishton and Weston Monkton.	£4,988
The Heard Therapy CIC (3 grants)	Offering family-focused horse therapy for children with additional needs in South Somerset.	£5,750
The Pod Youth Club (2 grants)	Covering core costs for work with children and young people with additional needs and their families in the Frome area.	£8,500
The Reanella Trust	Supporting young single mothers to build education and practical skills to reduce the effects of food poverty in Frome.	£5,000
The Somerscience Trust	Bringing science inspiration and Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics opportunities to the young people of rural Somerset.	£5,000
The Space (2 grants)	Supporting members of the local community who need extra help during the winter.	£15,000
The Volunteer Network	Helping cover core staff costs of continued support work with young people with mental health challenges in the Glastonbury area.	£5,000
The Wells Cathedral Chorister Trust	Providing costs of bursaries to support choristers at Wells Cathedral.	£32,975
Ups and Downs Southwest	Supporting Somerset families that include a child with Down Syndrome.	£4,995
Xcelerate CIO (formerly Lower Lakes)	Updating facilities for a well-used youth group in Chilton Trinity.	£9,985
Yeovil Opportunity Group (2 grants)	Providing speech and language and communication intervention to non-verbal pre-school children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities in Yeovil.	£10,000
YMCA Brunel Group (4 grants)	Supporting vulnerable young people in the Mendip and South Somerset areas.	£30,150
YMCA Dulverton Group	Supporting vulnerable people into independent living by buying essential items like carpets and white goods.	£20,000
Young Somerset (2 grants)	Extending the work of essential youth clubs for young people in Bridgwater and Taunton.	£10,365

ALSO...

➤ 96 grants under £2,000 were awarded to groups totalling £92,954

➤ 346 grants were awarded to individuals, totalling £130,532

SUPPORTING SOMERSET'S BLENDED SOCIAL INVESTMENTS

Group	Project description	Amount awarded
Root Connections	Providing a short-term bridging loan enabling construction of an essential community space.	£30,000
Stogumber Community Village Shop Ltd	Buying a village shop to serve the local community.	£30,200

THANK YOU FOR CHANGING THE WORLD ON YOUR DOORSTEP

We can only give vital funding to hundreds of life-changing small charities across Somerset thanks to your generosity. Plus, we need to also give a very big thank you to our volunteer Trustees and panel members who generously give their time and expertise to support our work.

OUR CHARITABLE FUNDS:

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Cheeke and Stodgell Foundation
Christopher Tanner Memorial Fund
Churchstanton Community Fund
Community Building Energy Efficiency Fund
Crowcombe Chest Grants Fund
Discovery Community Fund
Dyke Exhibition Fund
Eagle House Grants Fund
Elliot's Touch
Exmoor Community Fund
Field House Trust
Get Set Go! Fund
Graham Burrough Charitable Trust
Grave Family Fund
Help Through Winter
High Sheriff of Somerset Charitable Trust
Hinton St George Charitable Trust
Hobhouse Memorial Fund
Horseshoes and Handprints

Hunt's Food Group Community Fund
John Nowes Exhibition Foundation
King James Exhibition Fund
Lucy Nelson Fund
Mary's Beat
McGreevy Charitable Trust
Medlock Fund
Mendip Hills Fund
Michael Samuel Charitable Trust
Millennium Fund
Norah Cooke-Hurle Fund
Oake Sunshine Fund
Perry's Recycling Fund
Peter Wyman Fund
Philip and Melanie Gibbs Fund
Rebecca's Hope
Re-imagining the Levels
Sir John Wills Memorial Trust
Somerset Connect Fund
Somerset Fund for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
Somerset Lord Lieutenant's Fund for Youth
Somerset Masonic Fund
Somerset Social Investment Programme
Surviving Winter Appeal
SWEF
T & PJ (Milborne Port) Fund
The Aequitas Fund

The Burford Fund
The Charlie Bigham's Fund
The Chris & Heather Virgin Fund
The Clarke Willmott Community Fund
The Corton Hill Trust
The Courage Family Fund
The Dave Durdan Legacy Fund
The David Quinton Trust
The Festive Fund
The ICB Community Resilience Fund
The Gamble Fund
The Glemsford Fund
The Gooch Charitable Fund
The Hamstones Fund
The Hector Tanner Memorial Fund
The John and Dorothy Ball Fund
The Mulberry Somerset Community Fund
The Old Mill Fund
The Pinniger Fund
The Preventing Victims Fund
The Richard Huish Foundation Fund
The Summerfield Force for Good Fund
The Waste Not Somerset Fund
The Welkin Fund
The Wessex Water Fund
The Wilton Trust
WCS Pickford Trust

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The Wilton Trust

THE SOMERSET WELLBEING FUND

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THE SOMERSET YOUTH FUND

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Dillington Farms

Ewen Cameron Charitable Trust

The Ringham Fund



THE SOMERSET FUND

Thanks to Somerset Council for partnering to provide 50% matched funding for every donation, which means our supporters make an even bigger impact in our communities. Huge thanks also to the many other wonderful individual donors not listed here.

Benefact Group

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Roberts Group

Sir John & Lady Amory's Charitable Trust

Somerset Council

Summerfield Developments

The City Charitable Trust

Wessex Water

Willie & Nickie Gething

PHILANTHROPY NETWORK

We're very thankful to each and every member of Somerset Philanthropy Network, a community of passionate people who want to change the world on their doorstep and who provide vital support for our work.

Amanda Ellingworth

Chris Bishop

Edward Bayntun-Coward

Kate Turner

Lady Louise Patten

Lucy and James Nelson

Martin Stanley

Maureen Whitmore

Nicholas and Diana Barber

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Venetia Hoare & Hamish Leng



CORE FUNDERS

We're particularly grateful to the following organisations, who provide vital funding to support our core work alongside many other wonderful Friends of the Foundation.

Bhere Ltd

Cornwall Glass

Deepest Books

Nani Huyu Charitable Trust

The Dickinson Family Charitable Trust

OUR VISION, MISSION AND VALUES



OUR VISION:

Our vision for Somerset is a place with strong communities where everyone has the opportunity to thrive.

OUR MISSION:

Our mission is to help passionate people in Somerset change the world on their doorstep by funding local causes and inspiring local giving and philanthropy.

OUR VALUES:

We're here for everyone: We embed diverse perspectives throughout everything we do and welcome and value the uniqueness in everyone.

We drive equity: We work to better understand the needs, challenges, dreams and aspirations of historically underfunded communities and take positive action to redress the balance.

We act with integrity: We're transparent about how and why we do things and always do the best we can.

We lead with kindness: We're supportive, compassionate and respectful to each other and everyone we serve.

We strive to be better: We seek and reflect on feedback and insight, foster collaboration, and share our learnings to get better results.



DOES SOMERSET HAVE YOUR HEART?

**A GIFT IN YOUR WILL TO SOMERSET
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION COULD:**

- ▼ **Change** young lives in Yeovil
- ▼ **Fund** counselling in Castle Cary
- ▼ **Support** sports clubs in Shepton
- ▼ **Help** older people in Over Stowey
- ▼ **Improve** wellbeing in Wiveliscombe

Leave a legacy that lasts by helping us fund hundreds of small, local charities every year – changing lives across Somerset.

Download our **Gifts in Wills** guide or request a copy in the post.



somersetcf.org.uk/legacy
01749 344949
info@somersetcf.org.uk

Registered Charity No. 1094446. Registered in England and Wales No. 04530979

Somerset 
**Community
Foundation**

Patron

Lady Gass DCVO JP

President

Mohammed Saddiq,
HM Lord-Lieutenant of Somerset

Vice-Presidents

Jane Barrie OBE
Lord Cameron of Dillington
John Cullum
Janet Montgomery
(The High Sheriff of Somerset 2025/26)
Michael Fiennes
Annie Maw CVO
Maureen Whitmore
Peter Wyman CBE
Angela Yeoman OBE

Chair

Michael Samuel MBE

Trustees

Francis Clark (appointed 4/8/25)
Amanda Ellingworth (Deputy Chair)
Michelle Ferris (Treasurer)
Helen Gulvin
Angela Kerr
Kokila Lane
John Lyon CB (retired 10/10/25)
Bruce McIntosh
Lucy Nelson DL
Louisa Raybould
James Shakespeare (appointed 14/7/25)
David Taylor
Giles Wood

The following retired from the Board during 2024/25:

Chris Bishop (31/3/25)
Tim Walker (11/10/24)

Staff

Chief Executive Justin Sargent OBE DL
Philanthropy Director Laura Blake
Operations Director Mary Hancock (until February 2025)
Programmes Director Andy Ridgewell
Operations Director Kelly Hall (from February 2025)

Senior Programmes Manager Kirsty Campbell
Senior Finance Manager Danni Cockerill
Senior Philanthropy Manager Fiona Foster
Senior Programmes Manager Amelia Thompson
Senior Marketing Manager Sue Wheeler
(until October 2025)
Senior Marketing Manager Ross Collins
(from November 2025)

Programmes Manager Sean Boland
Programmes Manager Clare Stephen
Research and Insights Manager Emily Berridge

Office and Marketing Administrator Nina Pearson
Programmes Administrator Sara Powell
Finance Administrator Faye Gunstone

Get in touch:

Somerset Community Foundation
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Send us an email info@somersetcf.org.uk
Visit www.somersetcf.org.uk



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