

Foundation Donors Give a Resounding Thumbs Up

Donors to the Community Foundation have given the county-wide grant making charity an average mark of 9/10 for customer satisfaction. This result is taken from a recent survey of fund holders.

The work was undertaken to make sure people giving money through the Community Foundation were happy with how it was being spent and how donors are kept in touch. Andy Beeforth, Director said "this is very encouraging, particularly at times like this when people are cutting back and thinking very seriously about how they spend their money. People have choice about how and where they place their support and we can't take donations for granted".

Fund holders include: Cumbrian Newspapers, Cumbria County Council, Laing's, HSBC Bank, Nuvia, Westmorland Limited, Shepley Engineering, Thomas Graham and Son, the Joyce Wilkinson Trust, Holehird Trust and a range of anonymous private donors.

"This year we will make grants totalling £1.3m to good causes in the county, but if we are to do the same next year we need to keep our supporters happy" said Andy Beeforth.

The survey which had a 70% response rate was done to gauge whether we should be doing things differently for donors to the Community Foundation. "It has been very reassuring to receive this feedback, especially as we are promoting a major financial incentive for people and businesses to create grant making funds at the Foundation. Your existing customers are often the best people to sell a service and to give reassurance to potential buyers" said Mr Beeforth. The Grassroots Endowment Challenge is currently providing £1 for every £2 donated. The Grassroots Endowment Appeal has raised £345,000 towards a £1m target. The Grassroots Endowment Challenge is seeking to raise money to build permanent grant making funds at the Community Foundation.