About Cumbria Community Foundation

Cumbria Community Foundation is an independent charity that connects people who care with causes that matter.

The Foundation exists to tackle poverty and disadvantage and to strengthen Cumbria’s communities by inspiring philanthropic giving and by connecting people who give money with inspirational, life-changing projects.

Our fundholders and supporters benefit from our in-depth knowledge of Cumbrian communities and organisations that we have gained from 20 years of grant making and investment in the county.

We have responded four times to emerging need in times of crisis by launching successful disaster appeals, most recently raising £10.3m in response to the flooding in December 2015.

We are one of Cumbria’s foremost grant makers with an annual grant distribution in excess of £2m and endowed assets in excess of £18m. Since 1999 we have awarded more than £44m in 8,000 organisations and more than 8,000 individuals.

An independent organisation, we have a board of trustees drawn from across the county, all of whom are highly respected from community life, businesses and the public sector.

We are independently accredited by the UK Community Foundations, the fastest growing philanthropic movement in the UK with 46 member foundations and over £0.5 billion in assets. Part of a global network of 1,400 Community Foundations, the fastest growing philanthropic movement in the UK with 46 member foundations and over £0.5 billion in assets. Part of a global network of 1,400

CUMBRIA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION ANNUAL REVIEW 2019

COVER IMAGE: Lake District Mobility provides specialist all-terrain vehicles, known as trampers, to those with limited mobility so that they can access the countryside with their families and friends. A grant of £15,000 contributed towards staff costs.
Chairman’s Statement

2019 has been an important year for us, celebrating the achievements of our first twenty years and sharing the stories of the people and projects we’ve funded. £44m given out in grants and over 4,000 groups and 8,000 individuals supported from a standing start is remarkable. The countless positive stories inspire us to continue to grow philanthropy in Cumbria.

In order to expand our grant giving we are in the second year of an ambitious five-year business plan with targets to double the Foundation’s long-term funds under management from £15m to £30m and to double our base grant making from £1.4m to £2.8m.

During the year we received our first Elm donation from an individual fundholder and saw the creation of six new grant making funds. Targets for meeting potential donors in the year were exceeded and additions to long-term funds stood at £2.77m. The year’s largest corporate donor was United Utilities, which created the Legacy Fund in West Cumbria. United Utilities have been a great partner and have enabled us to make grants that will have a lasting benefit in and around West Cumbria for many years to come.

With the support of Sellafield Ltd, we published ‘West Cumbria, Opportunities and Challenges’ which sets out some stark figures about health, education and low incomes in the area alongside opportunities for economic growth. We look forward to working with Sellafield Ltd and its supply chain in addressing these issues.

Worryingly, we are seeing an increasing number of organisations reducing the level of service they can offer owing to funding challenges and in some cases, the loss of organisations. This evidence reinforces our commitment to grow new philanthropic funds.

I remain indebted to our trustee board. We welcomed Kevin Walsh as a new board member and said farewell to Jane Humphries, chair of the Grants Committee, after a very full nine-year term. We also said farewell to Hokey Bennet-Jones, Sai Ghafoor and Nick Utting, all co-opted members of the Grants Committee who had also served nine-year terms. My heartfelt thanks to each of them for their outstanding contribution to our work and also to all the funders, staff, trustees and grant panel members.

It is a great privilege to chair an organisation that has responsibility for directing the charitable gifts of so many kind and generous people.

For 20 years, Cumbria Community Foundation has inspired a growing philanthropic movement in the county, which has generated significant new funds for community organisations and played a vital role in helping the most vulnerable and isolated in society.

‘Giving Back, Looking Forward’ is the title of our 20th anniversary year. It is also the title of our exhibition and accompanying book, which celebrates the people and communities of Cumbria and the power of philanthropy to change lives.

As part of our year-long anniversary campaign, we have been encouraging people and businesses to get involved and take part in a challenge to help us raise money for the Cumbria Fund, which supports around 50 different community projects each year.

The money helps a wide range of people, including youngsters, vulnerable adults, the disabled, those recovering from illness, the unemployed, and low-income families.

To kick off the campaign, staff and trustees raised £6,000 by taking a dip in Lake Windermere in January. Companies have also chosen the Foundation as their charity of the year. A whole host of events have been held by our supporters throughout the year, ranging from coffee mornings and private dinners, open garden events, sponsored fundraisers including cycling, golfing and walking, as well as generous donations, some in lieu of birthday or other celebration presents. Keswick and Penrith Alhambra cinemas, and Brewery Arts Centre also showed our 20th anniversary video trailer before film screenings to help us raise awareness.

Our role at the Foundation is to bring people together who want to help Cumbrian communities make a real difference, whether that’s our fundholders, with whose support we have given out more than £44 million in grants, or the community leaders we support who are addressing real issues and changing lives for the better.

We’d like to thank our anniversary sponsors, Carr’s Group, The Cumberland, Sellafield Ltd and United Utilities for their support during the year, and CGP Books for the sponsorship of our ‘Giving Back, Looking Forward’ book.

2019 has been a year of thanks and celebration for what we have achieved so far. But more importantly it is about the future and how we can all build on the philanthropy demonstrated in Cumbria in the last 20 years and galvanise future generations to see the impact that their philanthropic giving can have.

“Thank you for inviting the We Will group. They were thrilled to be asked, really enjoyed the event and were blown away by the Duke and Duchess’s knowledge and interest in their campaign.

It was also a terrific experience for them to be able to meet and talk with other local volunteer organisations.”

Rachel Suddart, who supports the We Will campaign.

As part of our birthday celebrations, we welcomed Their Royal Highnesses The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge to a reception in Keswick to shine a light on some of the county’s most selfless people. One such group was young mental health campaigners, We Will, who want more understanding and openness when talking about the issue.
"As we begin the next phase in the life of Cumbria Community Foundation, I hope you are inspired: to give, to give more, to become a member, to create a fund or to make a gift to Cumbria through your will."

From the Chief Executive

When John Fryer-Spedding convened the founding steering group in 1997, community foundations were little known. The first trustees were inspired by the success of the neighbouring community foundations in Newcastle and Durham. All knew how much Cumbria needed its own dedicated grant making charity and what good could be achieved if we could encourage new philanthropy. In our 20th year it is important to recognise that Cumbria Community Foundation would not exist were it not for the dedication of John Fryer-Spedding, Arthur Sanderson, Ian Brown, Bill Swarbrick and the senior management at British Nuclear Fuels.

£44 million in grants and endowed funds of almost £19 million are proud testimony to the hard work and dedication of everyone involved. We have helped shape the lives of thousands of young people, offered life-saving-grants to the frail and elderly, and provided hope in times of despair.

Almost every week we receive a call into the office from someone who has had an idea for how they can help people. They want to form a group or set up a new project and need money to get things started. We love receiving those calls - they inspire us - and we would like to be able to support every deserving new project.

Our first grant was to a childhood bereavement project set up by nurses on the paediatric ward at Furness General Hospital. Another early grant was to support the creation of Cumbria’s first self-harm support group. Cumbria Wheelchair Sports Club and Cumbria Gateway are two more ‘new kids on the block’ that we supported in their early days. During the life of the Foundation, carers organisations have grown from being newly established to fundamental parts of our communities as we celebrate and adapt to the challenges of a super-ageing population. At the heart of each of these organisations are families, some with disabled children, some the victims of domestic abuse or crime, others striving to be the best they can in sport, music and learning.

We also back long-established organisations doing vital work: youth clubs like the Wigton Youth Station and Drop Zone in Barrow, and Cumbria Alcohol and Drug Advisory Service.

We have grown in our knowledge of our communities and refined the style and nature of our grant making. By bringing a growing number of supporters under the umbrella of the Community Foundation we can increasingly make a difference to fundamental issues.

As we begin the next phase in the life of Cumbria Community Foundation, I hope you are inspired: to give, to give more, to become a member, to create a fund or to make a gift to Cumbria through your will.

Andrew Beeforth OBE, Chief Executive 1999 to present

West Cumbria: Opportunities & Challenges

West Cumbria is an area of contrasts, where a high-wage, technology-based economy is contrasted with low educational attainment and unemployment and some shockingly poor levels of health and wellbeing.

Cumbria Revealed, our county-wide needs report, was published in 2017. This was so well received that Sellafield Ltd commissioned the Foundation to publish a similar report focusing specifically on West Cumbria. ‘West Cumbria, Opportunities and Challenges’ was produced as a companion document to Sellafield Ltd’s Social Impact Strategy.

The accessible, evidence-based report provides detailed information about the underlying issues in the community alongside examples of philanthropic activities addressing key needs that improve the lives of residents. Importantly, the report identifies the opportunities for economic growth, and community and cultural assets that are key to the area’s future success.

To read the report, visit www.cumbriafoundation.org or call the office for a copy.
High Sheriff of Cumbria

The High Sheriff role is over 1,000 years old and dates from the days when the High Sheriff was responsible for all law and order in the county. Appointed by Her Majesty The Queen, today the role concentrates on upholding and supporting the judiciary, police and law enforcement agencies, emergency services, local authorities and all recognised church and faith groups as well as supporting and encouraging the voluntary sector.

Marcia Reid Fotheringham made history in 2019 by becoming Cumbria’s first black High Sheriff. Born in London and raised and educated in the United States, she moved from Boston to Cumbria in 1996. Marcia has worked as a psychologist in the NHS as well as a family therapist. She has been a magistrate in Cumbria for 18 years and is the former chair of North and West Cumbria Magistrates’ Bench.

Cumbria Community Foundation works closely with the High Sheriff of Cumbria, having set up the High Sheriff’s Crimebeat Fund in 2008, which has since awarded £100,000 in grants. Each year, we arrange for the High Sheriff to find out more about the county’s voluntary sector, and Marcia has already visited more than 25 projects funded by the Foundation.

She said: “Having lived in Cumbria for 22 years, I was aware of many charities and the work done by staff and volunteers. However, my involvement with Cumbria Community Foundation has shown me that I really knew very little. While the Foundation is more than willing to accept raised funds for charities, they also show anyone interested the actual charities they support. And show me they did! The numbers of staff and volunteers supporting those in need is truly admirable - and impressive.

“I have seen projects giving support to youths, the elderly, the isolated, the sick, the dying, those in recovery, survivors of abuse, those with difficult diagnoses, and those wanting to learn basic and/or advanced life survival skills.

“Our county is vast with many differences and needs. Cumbrian charities and volunteers seem equally vast - and determined. I would like to thank the many people I have met. Your stories have left me uplifted by your energies, strengths and determination.”

Impact Review

Our Cumbria Revealed Report describes the needs and issues in our local communities. They relate to health and poverty, and the challenges of growing up or growing old. Whatever and wherever they are, you can usually find a charity or community project that is working to help change the situation for the better.

There are at least 6,000 such groups in Cumbria and our grants enable these groups to do what they do best - help improve lives, in Cumbria.

This section shares the valuable and demonstrable difference that philanthropy is making to our county.

The data paints a picture of the measurable difference our grant awards have made to local people on behalf of everyone who gives us money. The information is based on completed end of grant reports from funded groups and charities in 2017-18*

The measurement tool that we use enables us to describe the benefits of the range of grants made against our grant making priorities.

In total, across all funded projects, 118,605 people have benefitted in some way from our grant making.

The full statistics on which this information is based are available on our website.

*Data excludes grants awarded from the Cumbria Flood Recovery Fund and applications not requiring a completed monitoring form.
Imagine how frightening it is to be 18 years old and pregnant with no-one to support you?

One young woman with a troubled childhood sought help when she was pregnant with her first baby. She worried about the future for herself and her child. Thanks to Cumbria Family Support, she now has three children who are flourishing.

“I had no support from my family; I had always been the support for them. I worried about whether I would be able to look after my baby. I worried that others would think I wouldn’t be able to because of my childhood. I soon realised that the support worker was coming to help and not judge me. She supports me to make the right decisions. She has helped me with my anxiety and got me out of the house. She helps me with appointments and the children love it when she comes.”

Cumbria Family Support helps families who are experiencing difficulties in their own homes. Recently moving into the Allerdale area, the charity has been delivering services to families in Carlisle and Eden for 25 years. Support workers and trained volunteers provide tailor-made practical and emotional support. Other services include parenting programmes, youth clubs and individual and group work sessions. The charity also manages the Child Contact Centre in Carlisle.

The Foundation’s first grant was awarded in 2006 to train more volunteers to help with parenting skills, provide respite and offer a listening ear. In 2011, the ‘Best Buddies’ project received a grant to work with children aged 5-11 to promote positive relationships within families and develop awareness of personal safety.

In 2016, a grant contributed to an emotional resilience project, which helped Joanna*, aged 7. Following her father’s sudden death, the school nurse referred Joanna for emotional support. Joanna’s feelings started affecting her school and social life. The support worker helped Joanna to process her feelings about her father and his death. She became more confident, less withdrawn and more able to engage in all that school has to offer. Grants continue to support the Empowering Children and Families project which aims to support 300 children and their families to address emerging issues and prevent them from escalating.

One volunteer said: “Some of the families have many professionals in and out of their lives. I provide continuity to a family that has never had it before.”

Pam Hutton, Chief Officer, said: “Volunteers are the heart of the organisation. They are recruited from the community and understand the local needs. Volunteers come from all walks of life. They could be a retired professional who has known us from their work or a young person wanting to gain experience in the care profession. Parents who have received our support have become volunteers because they know how our services helped them.

“We have had fantastic support from Cumbria Community Foundation. As for all charities, fundraising is an ongoing and challenging process. We are reliant on the goodwill of our fantastic volunteers and the grant making trusts that fund our work.”

Pam Hutton, Chief Officer

Cumbria Family Support have reported the following outcomes as a result of their activities in 2018-19:

- 320 children, young people and their parents/carers were supported, building confidence, empowerment and belief in their own abilities
- 108 new referrals were received, accessing their services for the first time
- Volunteers provided 4,072 hours of home-based support

*names have been changed.
New skills, new confidence, new job

Thanks to almost £100,000 in grant funding, the Skills 4 You project in Cleator Moor has boosted confidence and given hundreds of people skills to make positive changes and get them back into work.

One such person is Lisa from Cleator. She lost her job and was feeling low. She found the Skills 4 You project, which teaches woodcraft and upcycling to help people who have a chronic lack of confidence, caused by mental or physical health challenges.

When Lisa joined the craft group, she was feeling anxious, having regular panic attacks and suffering from depression. But, determined to try lots of craft techniques, she quickly got the hang of découpage and painting, so much so that in 2018, she started her own business, upcycling and re-purposing old furniture and mirrors.

Lisa said: “The course was a major influence, it gave me the inspiration and confidence to start my own business after a terrible time in my life.”

The future now looks bright for Lisa. She is enjoying her new adventure, learning new skills as she develops her business and selling her unique furniture through social media. She explained: “It’s a fantastic feeling to take a piece of furniture that nobody wants anymore and turn it into a centrepiece that will be cherished by its new owner.”

Lisa’s story is a familiar one, and although Lisa has an array of qualifications and many years of experience behind her, West Cumbria has high levels of unemployment, where a shocking one in four adults living in Copeland have no qualifications.

The Skills 4 You project, run by social enterprise, Home to Work, is trying to address this issue by providing training opportunities to local residents. The project was launched in 2014 and has been supported by Cumbria Community Foundation ever since, to offer practical skills, mainly to 16 – 24 year olds, and a range of short courses to help people get on to mainstream accredited courses.

The eight-week training offers the opportunity to learn woodworking and crafting in an on-site workshop. Alongside the practical training, the course offers mentoring, support in writing a CV and how to perform in a job interview. It also looks at the social skills in life which can support mental health and wellbeing.

Christina Timney, Grants and Information Officer at Home to Work, said: “We are so proud of what our clients and the project has achieved. Our team has formed relationships with local people, many of whom lacked confidence, were in poor physical and mental health, and had no opportunity to learn new skills, as well as with employers who advertise vacancies with us.”

Improving the life skills, education, employability and enterprise of disadvantaged people

Having a job provides self-worth and independence, helping people to take responsibility for themselves. There is a major gap in educational attainment between children from disadvantaged backgrounds and those from better off families. We support projects that try to close that gap for adults and young people.

- 285 people gained long-term employment
- 43 people are no longer claiming unemployment benefits
- 2,238 people attended training with 1,726 gaining formal accreditation
- 1,555 people started on the pathway to employment
- 41 people became self-employed
- 617 people went into further education or training
Combatting loneliness in later life

Described by one member as “The Great Escape”, Caldbeck’s heart-warming community project “Men in Sheds” provides a perfect social haven for men to share their love of woodworking and a bit of a ‘craic’.

Men in Sheds is exactly as it sounds, a shed known as the Old Joiner’s Shop where men can seek friendship and pursue their practical interests. It’s a larger version of an ideal garden shed, located by the very beautiful, but secluded, Caldbeck Pond. It’s accessed by residents from the local area, often with the help of volunteers owing to their age and/or isolation. Stepping inside you will discover a friendly, safe and inclusive environment where members share tools and resources to work on projects of their own choice at their own pace.

The project meets twice a week and has more than 30 regular attendees. It not only provides respite for carers but a refuge for retired men – some with early onset dementia. They also repair notice boards, vintage motorbikes and playgrounds. Their latest activity is making benches for Cumbria Wildlife Trust.

One member, Bert, who is 90, and would normally be very isolated and alone, lives for Tuesdays and Thursdays. The atmosphere is warm and welcoming and is the place to be if you want to enjoy the companionship of like-minded and caring friends. An absolute need in this area for people like Bert, where issues including fuel poverty, and lack of facilities, services and transport affect them.

Northern Fells Group, which supports the Men in Sheds project, is a community-owned and volunteer-led charity. It serves 3,700 residents in over 200 square miles of upland terrain, many of whom are vulnerable, isolated and excluded from vital services. Since 2004, the charity has received almost £200,000 from the Foundation towards its many services in addition to Men in Sheds, including a community minibus, a Village Agent service, a Lend a Hand scheme, benefits awareness advice and holiday play schemes, along with social and recreational activities.

Libby Graham, Fundraising Coordinator, said: “The support offered by Cumbria Community Foundation, and the grant aid we have received over the last 15 years, has been invaluable to the organisation and the communities of the seven parishes we serve. We have been able to pilot new initiatives, expand our services and support our volunteer base, to ensure that our services are of the highest quality and to help us to continue to meet the changing needs of our users.”

Supporting vulnerable older people

As one of England’s popular places to retire, it’s hardly surprising that Cumbria has a super-ageing population and that the proportion of older people living here is increasing at a much faster rate than elsewhere.

The rurality of Cumbria is a significant factor for older people and access to health and social care services remains an issue. As people age, there can be sensory loss, the onset of dementia, (which is expected to rise in the county by 80% in the next 10 years), and a prevalence of loneliness, which can lead to clinical depression.
Vital help in times of need

Millions of pounds in life changing benefits go unclaimed each year or are refused on technicalities or overturned on appeal. Allerdale Disability Association (ADA) has a fantastic track record in helping local people with disabilities receive what they deserve to help them live their lives.

Based in Moorclose Community Centre in Workington, ADA helped 900 people through its information service in 2018. For most people it helps, it is a life changing service. But for others, the wait, the uncertainty, and the stress, is too much. ADA knows of people who have been driven to thoughts of suicide. Four men have taken their own lives waiting for their benefits appeals to be heard.

Paul Parkinson, Information and Benefits Adviser, helps people navigate their way through the benefits system. In the past, people were given awards for life under the Disability Living Allowance scheme. Now with Personal Independence Payments, people must reapply every two years, even if their disability hasn’t changed.

He said: “People are living on money from family, or friends, or they are getting into debt. Three of my clients have committed suicide in three years. I went to an appeal tribunal with the widow of a fourth. I try to help clients with everything from filling in forms to appeals and supporting families during the tribunal hearings in court.”

Despite this grim picture, there is hope. One client, 58-year old Paul, saw his benefits halve under the new system. Thanks to ADA, his benefits were fully restored. He said: “It made a lot of difference; it was really helpful.”

While getting people’s benefits payments is a life-changing aspect of ADA’s work, it is the regular weekly support that maintains a better quality of life for its members.

Twice a week, the doors of the centre are thrown open and anyone with a physical disability and their families and carers are welcome to come and spend time together. It’s a place where people can relax, learn new skills and meet new friends, or just as 43-year old John said: “I have only one leg and my dad cares for both me and my mum who has rheumatoid arthritis. It gets me out of the house two days a week and it gives my dad a bit of a break.”

In addition to the normal activities, the charity also organises trips to various places and in 2004, after hearing that the local Talking Newspaper group was to disband, ADA took it over and a team of volunteers have continued to record the weekly disc ever since.

Cumbria Community Foundation has given more than £138,000 to ADA since 2002. Tracey Parker is the manager of ADA. She co-ordinates all the activities and fills out lots of fundraising applications a year to keep the centre going.

She said: “It costs £68,000 a year to run the charity. The Foundation is a godsend. Its continued support has kept us open and has helped us unlock funding from other sources.”

“The Foundation is a godsend. Its continued support has kept us open and has helped us unlock funding from other sources.”
It’s been described as a ‘lifeline’ for people living in one of the poorest parts of Carlisle. And while it’s unusual for a sewing club to be seen as ‘therapy’ for women who feel socially isolated, this is what’s happening at Botcherby’s Community Centre in Carlisle.

Keeping this and other clubs going in the wake of two major floods has been no mean feat and it’s down to the determination of a few community leaders and generous financial support from Cumbria Community Foundation.

Funding of almost £70,000 over the years has secured a number of community activities – not just sewing and knitting. Helen Fisher, Centre Manager, said: “People need a place to come together on a regular basis and have some sense of normality.”

Based on Victoria Road, the centre is a well-used local facility and a hub of the community in a deprived area, hosting a wide variety of long standing, affordable community activities. Brenda Bell set up the sewing club 33 years ago. She said: “We all find that meeting up with like-minded people keeps us positive and is good for our wellbeing. Chatting to someone who understands our passion and having the company and support of other people that love to do the same things is great.”

In 2005, the centre was flooded and remained out of action until August that year. Portakabins were brought in to enable some of the groups to keep going, but several items were either lost or damaged. In 2006, the centre received £8,321 from the Cumbria Recovery Fund to replace lost equipment for the Sewing Club and Indoor Short Mat Bowls Club. The funds also went towards the set up and running of the parent and toddler group.

In 2015, the centre suffered extensive damage again during Storm Desmond and was forced to close. Many of its groups then had to pay ‘over the odds’ for alternative accommodation.

Many residents in the area were flooded themselves and staff were determined they would not be further disadvantaged by losing the vital services provided by the community centre. £60,000 from the Cumbria Flood Recovery Fund enabled staff to continue supporting the local community from a temporary location, and covered further staff costs, resilience measures against future flooding and the replacement of damaged equipment.

The centre reopened almost two years later in September 2017 with a fully-equipped gym, children’s soft play, meeting room, canteen, large hall and a lecture room. Helen said: “The grants enabled us to welcome people back and support their activities. Having an affordable and accessible venue helps tackle social isolation and issues for older people occurring from this, such as dementia.”

For many people, living in Cumbria is not an idyll: it is challenging and difficult. However, there are organisations and projects that can help alleviate some of the problems people face. More than 53,000 volunteers across the county are actively involved in making our communities better for the future, from helping clear up after the floods to caring for the elderly. Volunteers help provide services that really make a difference to the lives of thousands of Cumbrians.
Community Park gives opportunities for all

In the urban heart of Ulverston, you will find Ford Park – eight acres of beautiful green space used by a variety of people, and the result of an incredible level of effort and dedication from the Ford Park Community Group.

Ford Park is situated adjacent to Ulverston East Ward, one of the more deprived in Cumbria, where many residents do not have gardens of their own. It’s a valued community resource, important to local people as well as an important part of Ulverston’s heritage, accessible to the community and visitors alike. In addition to hosting major events such as the Lantern Festival, Ulverston Carnival and the Candlelit Walk, the community group provides a wide range of community-based activities and inclusive volunteering opportunities.

Some of the volunteers have health issues and additional needs and may have had a negative experience of formal education or employment.

Matthew has volunteered at Ford Park since he finished university. He said: “I am profoundly deaf and communicate through British Sign Language. I’ve been unable to find paid work even though I have a first-class honours degree.”

In 2017, £50,000 from the Fresh Ideas Fund converted part of the walled Victorian kitchen garden into a nursery so that the Group could grow and sell herbaceous plants, heritage vegetables and winter potted bulbs. The funding also developed the small shop in the community cafe, which sells heritage and child-friendly seeds and promotes family friendly gardening.

Jill Salmon, Chief Executive Officer, said: “The grant enabled the initial development, purchase of stock and training for volunteers and also provided a paid position for an apprentice, which then led to a permanent gardening position. The outlook is for a long-term, sustainable addition to the park that provides an income stream to the organisation and further opportunities for volunteers within the community.”

The dedicated team of volunteers play a huge role in helping to maintain and care for Ford Park and in June 2019 they were honoured with the Queen’s Award for Voluntary Service – the highest award a voluntary group can receive in the UK.

The ability to take part in and enjoy sport, art, culture and the outdoors contributes to everyone’s wellbeing. While not a top grant making priority, we recognise the importance of and continue to support fundholders’ wishes by funding groups and individuals under this theme.
During this 20th anniversary year, our members have also supported us in so many ways that we cannot list them all, but they include:

- Sponsorship of our 20th anniversary year celebrations, exhibition and book.
- Donations to our 20th anniversary appeal for the Cumbria Fund.
- Acting as host for our exhibition of images celebrating our 20th Anniversary.
- Playing our short 20th anniversary video before film screenings.
- Hosting a golf day to raise funds for our Cumbria Fund appeal.
- Hosting events to help raise awareness of the Foundation.
- Sponsorship of events we have held.
- Making the Foundation their organisation’s charity of the year.
- Fundraising for our 20th anniversary appeal through sponsored activities.
- Businesses donating a proportion of the proceeds of the sale of their products to our 20th anniversary appeal for the Cumbria Fund.

Membership

Our members are at the heart of our work, linking us to our communities and knowing they are part of an organisation that delivers much needed help to those in need in our communities.

Membership is open to individuals, families, voluntary organisations and corporates. All members are directly supporting our efforts and therefore helping communities in Cumbria. In this, our 20th anniversary year, we have made a special effort to make contact with all our individual and corporate members to let them know how much we appreciate their support to date.

We list our corporate members in both our Annual Review and on our website (with links through to their websites where possible). This year we have also listed our voluntary organisation members in our Annual Review.

We really appreciate the support that these voluntary organisations, who are at the very heart of our communities, are giving to the whole community of Cumbria via their membership of the Foundation.

For reasons of privacy, we do not list our individual and family members, but we very much appreciate their support.

This year, as a thank you to our members for their support, we invited them all on an evening cruise on Windermere which took place on 23rd May. Drinks and canapés were served on board MV Teal to more than 80 guests as they enjoyed the beautiful weather, sunset and chat about the first 20 years of Cumbria Community Foundation.

We would like to thank our challenge members, Windermere Lake Cruises and Handelsbanken Kendal for generously sponsoring this event.

By becoming members, individuals and organisations not only support the Foundation financially, but also act as our ambassadors.

During our 20th anniversary year, we are encouraging people, businesses, public bodies and voluntary groups to become involved as members of the Foundation.

If you know of anyone, or any organisation, who would like to become a member, please direct them to the members section of our website www.cumbriafoundation.org or ask them to call 01900 825760.

Challenge Members

1825
Armstrong Watson
BAE Systems Marine Limited
Bells of Lazonby Limited
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Kevin Roberts
Lake District Estates Co Limited
Lakeland Limited
Low Level Waste Repository Limited
M-Sport Limited
O’Reilly Wealth Management
Roundhouse Properties
Selafield Limited
The Majik House Co Limited
Thomas Graham & Sons Limited
WCF Limited (Brampton)
Westmorland Limited
Windermere Lake Cruises Limited
Wood PLC

Gedye & Sons

Gedye & Sons, solicitors with offices in Grange-over-Sands and London, have been corporate challenge members of the Foundation since 2015. Challenge members demonstrate an additional commitment to the Foundation and receive a small discount on taking a table at our Annual Celebration and Dinner, plus an invitation to an exclusive event during the year.

Richard Roberts, one of the Foundation’s trustees, is also a director of Gedye & Sons, who have this year also made the Foundation their charity of the year.

Gedye & Sons kindly sponsored the venue, the catering and the display stands for our 20th anniversary exhibition at Rheged in May, and also hosted a soirée at the Windermere Motor Boat Racing club in July at which they introduced the Foundation to some of their clients.

“We are proud to support the Foundation in its 20th birthday celebrations, especially as the number of applications for grants is rising each year. Now more than ever we should be observing the age old motto ‘charity begins at home’ as any donation to CCF can give life changing opportunities within our county.”
H&H Group PLC

Harrison & Hetherington were the Foundation’s first corporate members, joining in 2002.

Now, H&H Group PLC, a group including farmstock auctioneers, chartered surveyors, land agents, insurance brokers, residential sales and letting agents and printers, the business is our longest-serving corporate member and has made the Foundation its local charity of the year for our 20th anniversary year. This means that their staff have been fundraising for us: they participated in the Big Sleep in March, raising money for our Winter Warmth Appeal; and their team in the Dragon Bay dragon boat regatta in July raised money for our Cumbria Fund appeal.

Richard Rankin, Chief Executive, said: “Being one of the first corporate members, it seemed appropriate to become part of the Foundation’s 20th celebrations and devote some of our fundraising activities to the 20th Anniversary Cumbria Fund Appeal.

“H&H have long recognised the extremely important and at times vital good work the Foundation undertakes through its numerous funds.”
There are many people across our county who never truly think about themselves as philanthropists, people who receive money unexpectedly and want to do some good with it but are not sure exactly what.

The Brian and Ann Clark Fund was created in 2016. Mrs Clark said: “I came to Cumbria Community Foundation late on in my life and at the most appropriate time as I needed to store my surplus capital where it could benefit others. I had tried to do this for myself but apart from it being very time-consuming I was not always clear that I was making the right choices. The Foundation has taken all that off my shoulders with the added reassurance that their choices take account of my own preferences.”

The fund supports projects working with families, including those having disability or mental health issues, and to assist young people in caring roles, with the aim of promoting greater independence.

People First is an independent advocacy organisation that has worked in Cumbria for almost 30 years, supporting thousands of people every year to have their voices heard and helping them to live their best lives. One of the many services it provides is essential job training.

Last year, the charity converted the former University of Cumbria library on Milbourne Street in Carlisle into a new conference space. People with learning difficulties are recruited and trained to run the Conference and Centre for Learning through the ‘Hospitality Academy’.

A range of training, skills and development opportunities is delivered in catering, hospitality, centre management and administration skills. The centre also has its own bistro and there is an opportunity to work towards accredited qualifications.

The Brian and Ann Clark Fund awarded a grant towards equipment for the Hospitality Academy Garden, a key part of the training programme. Learners care for the garden grounds and grow their own herbs and vegetables, which form a key part of their Open Awards qualification.

Lisa Blackwell, Fundraising Officer and Business Team Leader said: “Our Hospitality Academy learners are eager to begin the work in the garden; putting all of their learning into practice and implementing the ‘pot to plate’ model.”

Mrs Clark has endorsed her confidence in the Foundation by making a further donation of £1 million to her fund during the last year. As she has said, the Foundation’s expert, local knowledge means that we can provide you with all the information you need, whether about local needs, tackling issues you care most about or working in specific areas of the county, and we help ensure that your giving is targeted and effective.

If you would like to know how to apply for a grant or create a grant making fund, please visit: www.cumbriafoundation.org or call 01900 825760.
Grant Making 2018-19

Full details of the funds, including their grantmaking criteria are available on our website.

Cumbria Cultural Fund
2 grants £1,750
Grants to promote excellence in the arts and cultural life.

Cumbria Disaster Fund
3 grants £1,590
Grants to address hardship and promote community recovery and rebuilding as a consequence of a disaster event.

Cumbria Grassroots Fund
5 grants £6,178
Grants for new and smaller organisations supporting older people, children and young people, and people on low incomes.

Cumbria Flood Recovery Fund 2015 (Individuals) 1 grant £1,000
Aims to improve the lives of 16-25 year olds or improve the quality of life for the elderly.

Dame Elizabeth Howard Trust Fund
2 grants £7,000
Grants for charitable activities for local communities located close to the Fellsfield Wind Farm in Western Eden.

Eton Grant
1 grant £1,000
Grants to employees in financial hardship and those providing activities that benefit people close to the Windermere Moor wind farm.

Fryer Grassroots Fund
10 grants £10,837
Grants to help disadvantaged young people to improve their health and wellbeing, and build social networks.

Gurney Charitable Trust Fund
1 grant £5,000
Grants to small projects in Copeland.

Hensman Acorn Fund
5 grants £23,752
Grants to support disabled people in Cumbria.

Holehird Trust
4 grants £27,000
Grants to community based organisations supporting the people of West Cumbria and those that leave a legacy in their community.

Johnson Fund
3 grants £3,000
Grants to groups and individuals to promote life skills or artistic excellence in young people and support for carers of young people with learning difficulties.

Kipling Fund for older people
7 grants £17,877
Established by a legacy, making grants to benefit older people.

Kipling Fund for younger people
5 grants £959
Established by a legacy, making grants to benefit children and young people.

Kirkby Moor Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund
1 grant £2,000
Grants for charitable activities for local communities located close to the Kirkby Moor Wind Farm.

Laing Fund
2 grants £1,750
Grants to employees in financial hardship and those providing activities that benefit people close to the Windermere Moor wind farm.

Liddie Thompson Fund
2 grants £1,250
Grants to community groups whose projects benefit young people in Carlisle and Allerdale.

Lilac Trust
7 grants £9,090
Grants to local communities in Kendal and its surrounding area.

Lindys Summer School Fund
1 grant £2,000
Supports projects helping people facing particular, those supporting older adults and people with learning difficulties.

Lowther Railway Trust
1 grant £10,837
Grants to help disadvantaged young people to improve their health and wellbeing, and build social networks.

Macmillan Cancer Support
1 grant £2,510
Grants to provide lane coaching to young people in Workington.

Manx United Charities
1 grant £3,000
Grants to groups and individuals to promote life skills or artistic excellence in young people and support for carers of young people with learning difficulties.

Maryport and Workington to develop skills that benefit people close to the Windermere Moor wind farm.

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Financial Summary

Cumbria Community Foundation Year ended 31 March 2019

This information is drawn from the draft accounts of the Foundation for year ended 31 March 2019. The final accounts, audited by Armstrong Watson, are available from our website.

Incoming resources £
- Donations and legacies: 3,172,679
- Grant programmes: 756,366
- Investment income: 510,264
- Events: 42,649

Total income: 4,480,958

Resources expended £
- Charitable activities: 2,452,643
- Fundraising and publicity: 147,262
- Events: 22,586
- Investment costs: 85,207

Total expenditure: 2,707,698

Deficit for the year (excluding movement of investments) £
- Donated to invest for future grant making: 2,774,287
- Revenue grants programmes: 966,348
- Deficit on unrestricted reserves: 34,679

Deficit for the year: (3,773,260)

Financial Summary

Cumbria Community Foundation

Net assets at 31 March 2019 £
- Funds invested for future grant making: 18,765,702
- Current grants programmes: 1,062,588
- Core unrestricted funds: 303,992

Total assets: 20,122,282

Grant Making Aims

- Improving the lives of disadvantaged children and families: £452,201
- Improving the lives, skills, education, employability and enterprise of disadvantaged people: £477,837
- Improving the health and wellbeing people: £486,109
- Strengthening and supporting fragile communities: £493,075
- Supporting vulnerable older people: £229,375
- Enabling people to access arts, sports, culture, heritage and the environment: £130,212

The Team

We would like to thank our team of more than 70 volunteers who gave many hours of their time at the various grant panels throughout the year. Their collective skills, knowledge and dedication are what make our work possible.

PATRON
Sir James Cropper KCVO

PRESIDENT
Claire Hensman
HM Lord-Lieutenant of Cumbria

VICE PRESIDENTS
Lord (Melvyn) Bragg of Wigton DL
John Fryer-Spedding CBE DL
The Right Reverend James Newcome
Lord Bishop of Carlisle
Lord Inglewood DL

TRUSTEES
Chair:
David Beeby

Vice-Chair & Company Secretary:
Tim Cartmell

Honorary Treasurer:
Valerie Young

Anthony Burbridge
Steve Cockayne (retired 15/10/2018)
Nicholas Coulsen
Katherine Fairclough
Cath Giel
Sue Howorth
Jane Humphries (retired 02/07/2019)
Jim Johnson
Viv Lewis
Glenys Marriott
Michael Pearson
Colonel (Retd) Chris Sanderson OBE, JP

STAFF

Chief Executive:
Andy Beeforth OBE

Chief Operating Officer:
Cath Howard

Finance Director:
Andrew Benson

Finance Officer:
Lynsey Stokes

Philanthropy Officer:
Jenny Benson

Development Assistant:
Anne Meeghan

Senior Grants and Donor Services Officer:
Ellen Clements

Grants & Donor Services Officer:
Gary Higgs

Grants & Donor Services Officer:
Joanne Spencer

Grants and Donor Services and Communications Officer:
Annalee Holliday

Media & Content Officer:
Rebecca Delin

Administrator:
Kristine McGlothlin

20th Anniversary Events and Fundraising Coordinator:
Jacqui Currie

"Community Foundations are vital contributors to building social capital. They also play a vital role by providing a platform that enables individuals and firms to invest in their communities. Community Foundations are helping to deliver a more inclusive capitalism, one in which individual virtue and collective prosperity can flourish.”

Mark Carney,
Governor of the Bank of England

Western Cumbria Panel
Chair: Cath Giel
Vice Chair: Alison Johnston
Richard Atkinson
Sandy Brown
Valerie Hallard
Roger Hart
Cllr Daniel Horsley
Cllr John Kane
Ian McCoy
Cllr Ged McGrath
Cllr Ron Munby
Paul Rowe
Chris Shaw
Willie Slavin
Linda Slinger
Suzanne Wilson

Grants committee
Chair: Kevin Walsh
Vice Chair: Chris Tomlinson OBE
Cllr Robin Ashcroft
Tim Cartmell
David Edwards
Ruth Guthrie
Janet Hartley
Cllr Doug Huggon
Jim Johnson
Viv Lewis
Glenys Marriott
Michael Pearson
Colonel (Retd) Chris Sanderson OBE, JP
Andy Towler
John Whittle
As one of the largest independently-owned private client investment managers in the UK, with offices across the country and a local branch in Penrith, Brewin Dolphin is delighted to support Cumbria Community Foundation.

Cumbria Community Foundation, Dovenby Hall, Dovenby, Cockermouth, Cumbria CA13 0PN

Tel: 01900 825760
Email: enquiries@cumbriafoundation.org
Web: www.cumbriafoundation.org

Cumbria Community Foundation is a charitable company limited by guarantee. Company No 3713328. Registered in England and Wales. Registered Charity No 1075120. Cumbria Community Foundation is quality accredited by UK Community Foundations standards endorsed by the Charity Commission.

The Grow & Cook sessions at St Mary’s Parish Church Centre in Workington guide local residents through seasonal, healthy recipes to enable them to recreate the healthy dishes at home for their families.