



**#CANDO**

TRANSFORMING WEST CUMBRIA



# **Youth Advisory Committee**

## **INFORMATION PACK**

# WHAT IS #CANDO?

#CanDo aims to help children and young people in West Cumbria develop a lifetime commitment to social action - people coming together to help improve their lives and solve the problems that are important in their communities.

The #CanDo Fund provides grants of up to £5,000 to local charities and community groups to help increase the number of opportunities for young people to volunteer, fundraise, or campaign on issues that are important to them.

Funded by Sellafield Ltd as part of their SiX – Social Impact Multiplied programme with match funding from local businesses and individuals, it is part of Transforming West Cumbria, a multi-year social investment programme developed by Cumbria Community Foundation.

Click more information, visit: [www.cumbriafoundation.org/transforming-west-cumbria/cando/](http://www.cumbriafoundation.org/transforming-west-cumbria/cando/)







## WHO WE ARE:

The #CanDo Fund is managed by Cumbria Community Foundation, an independent award-winning grant making charity dedicated to meeting the needs in our communities by assisting charities and voluntary organisations and supporting individuals in Cumbria.

Since the Foundation was established in 1999, more than £60 million has been given out in grants that have made a real difference to the most disadvantaged people in our county.

Our generous donors and fundholders made those grants possible: ordinary people and businesses who want to invest in and give back to their local communities.

# WHAT IS THE YOUTH ADVISORY PANEL?

#CanDo encourages community organisations to apply for funding of up to £5,000 for community projects, led by young people. The applications are considered by a youth committee, ensuring that decisions are taken by the very people who will benefit for generations to come.

The committee meets regularly to examine and debate applications, and has a say in which projects they feel will make a difference in their communities and should be supported.

Young people with a wide range of lived experiences and from different backgrounds are encouraged to apply. The committee forms a crucial part of the Foundation's grant making and helps steer its charitable work in a more youth-led direction.

**"I've met some remarkable people from doing this, and it's allowed me to develop skills and knowledge in evaluation. This has been a fantastic initiative to get involved in, in terms of feeling as though you have a say in what's happening in your community, but also to feel more in tune with what's happening at a local level."**

**Sophie Crozier, 24,  
#CanDo Youth Advisory Committee member 2022**



# WHAT YOU'LL BE DOING?

We're asking for a commitment to join the committee for one year, after that time you will be free to stay on for longer if you choose.

We meet in person where possible, usually in a central location depending on where the young people live. There are up to four committee meetings each year, which usually run for two hours in the evening (5pm-7pm) and there is some time required beforehand to prepare for the meeting and review funding applications. If you cannot physically attend a meeting, you can join via a computer or laptop, or your internet-enabled phone.

We will also expect you to complete tasks in between the committee meetings, such as visiting funded projects and undertaking peer evaluations. You will be fully supported by a staff member. We also ask one or two members to attend the West Cumbria Grants Committee meeting and present your decisions.

All travel expenses to and from the meetings will be covered and dinner is provided (pizza!).

**"It is an amazing opportunity that has been very rewarding for me. I enjoyed learning about all of the beneficial projects that are in the local area that I perhaps wouldn't have come across otherwise."**

**Aimee O'Driscoll, 19**

**#CanDo Youth Advisory Committee member 2022**

# WHO ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

- You're aged between 16-25 years old and live in West Cumbria.
- You're passionate about your local community, volunteering and the potential that local people and community groups can make a positive impact on the lives of children and young people.
- You'll be driven to make a difference, develop new skills and see things through to the end, until at least July 2024.
- You're a great team player encouraging others to have a voice as well as confident to speak your mind and represent others views that are affecting young people today.
- You'll be able to give a couple of hours a month to us.



**"The #CanDo Youth Committee was a great experience to be a part of. It was nice to be able to speak to people and share ideas. Everyone was really willing to get involved and all the ideas were very different."**

**Emily Dixon, 16,  
#CanDo Youth Committee Member 2021**



# WHAT YOU'LL GET FROM US



- You'll be part of a team of fun, like-minded young people from across West Cumbria that make a difference to real people
- You'll have a member of staff who will support you in your role and who you can contact with any questions as well as meet and work with senior decision makers
- You'll get to put your existing skills into practice and learn new ones – including reviewing applications and developing evaluation skills and knowledge
- Becoming a member will help to develop skills and experience such as decision making, influencing and team building and look good on your CV!
- We'll be happy to provide a reference
- You'll be reimbursed for any agreed expenses while carrying out the role

# HOW TO GET INVOLVED

If this sounds like the kind of thing you'd be interested in, we'd love to hear from you! Click [here to access the application form](#).

Once completed, please return to [grants@cumbriafoundation.org](mailto:grants@cumbriafoundation.org)

If you have any questions, please call 01900 825760.

## NEXT STEPS

STEP	DATE
APPLICATION CLOSING DATE	WEDNESDAY 10TH JANUARY 2024, 5PM
WE WILL LET YOU KNOW BY	FRIDAY 12TH JANUARY 2024
INDUCTION	TUESDAY 16TH JANUARY 2024 5PM - 7PM
PEER EVALUATION TRAINING	TUESDAY 6TH FEBRUARY 2024 5PM - 7PM
COMMITTEE MEETING	TUESDAY 12TH MARCH 2024 5PM - 7PM
PEER EVALUATION MEETINGS	1-1 AND GROUP MEETINGS THROUGHOUT MARCH-JULY 2023
COMMITTEE MEETING	TUESDAY 7TH JUNE 2024 5PM - 7PM



# LOCAL YOUTH IMPACT

The #CanDo Youth Advisory Committee decides where £50,000 each year is awarded. Here are some of the funded projects:

ORGANISATION	AMOUNT	PROJECT
Maryport and Solway Sea Cadets	£3,000	Artwork on community building
Together We CIC	£5,000	Mental health social action project
Always Another Way	£5,000	LGBTQ+ community projects
Whitehaven Sea Cadet	£5,000	Save the bees campaign
West Cumbria Rivers Trust	£2,400	Youth committee development
Barnardo's	£5,000	Disordered eating campaign and resources
Centre for Leadership Performance	£4,924	Environmental awareness

We meet once every couple of months to review applications for funding for youth projects, and we discuss what we like about a proposal, what doubts we might have, and what adjustments we think should be made before we approve funding, with the aim being to ensure the funding allocated has the best chance of improving young people's lives

Thomas Allaker, 24,  
#CanDo Youth Committee Member 2022



## **CUMBRIA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**

Dovenby Hall, Dovenby,  
Cockermouth, Cumbria CA13 0PN

Tel: 01900 825760

Email: [enquiries@cumbriafoundation.org](mailto:enquiries@cumbriafoundation.org)

Web: [www.cumbriafoundation.org](http://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.  
Quality accredited by UK Community Foundations to standards  
endorsed by the Charity Commission