

Cheapside Community Fund 2024

IMPACT REPORT

MAY 2024 – MARCH 2025





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OVERVIEW

Cheapside Business Alliance has now launched 3 funds with Action Funder to support community non-profit organisations working in and around the Cheapside area.

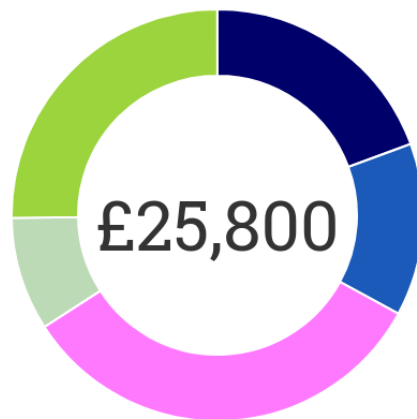
Over the last 3 years, we have supported 11 impactful projects, contributing a total of £48,800, and supporting 956 people.

This year's fund aimed to support projects that addressed one of the four following focus areas:

- Aim to address climate change and how our urban environment needs to adapt to support a greener and more sustainable world
- Support people to enter good work and education in order to become a cohesive and prosperous neighbourhood
- Develop skills through upskilling, skills sharing and training local people into employment
- Support mental health and wellbeing through sport



FUND SUMMARY



- Waste not want not
- Forward With Confidence
- Outreach Roadshow
- Travel support to codebar workshops
- Young Leaders Programme

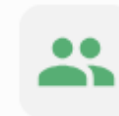
Projects were initially funded to a total of £16,000, with the remaining £9,800 funded to projects after a 6-month review.

Your key results



256

Total number of beneficiaries



77

Total number of volunteers engaged



5

Average funder rating

SUPPORTED PROJECTS

Waste not want not - £5,000

Forget me not memory café

Funding was requested to support 6 half-day sessions making jewellery from unwanted materials, and 2 half-day climate change talks, aimed at their beneficiaries. Their beneficiaries are mainly comprised of women living in the City of London, most of whom are retired.

Forward With Confidence - £3,500

The Suited & Booted Centre Limited

This project focuses on helping ex-offenders including prisoners awaiting release, men in half-way hostels, those on probation and other vulnerable men.

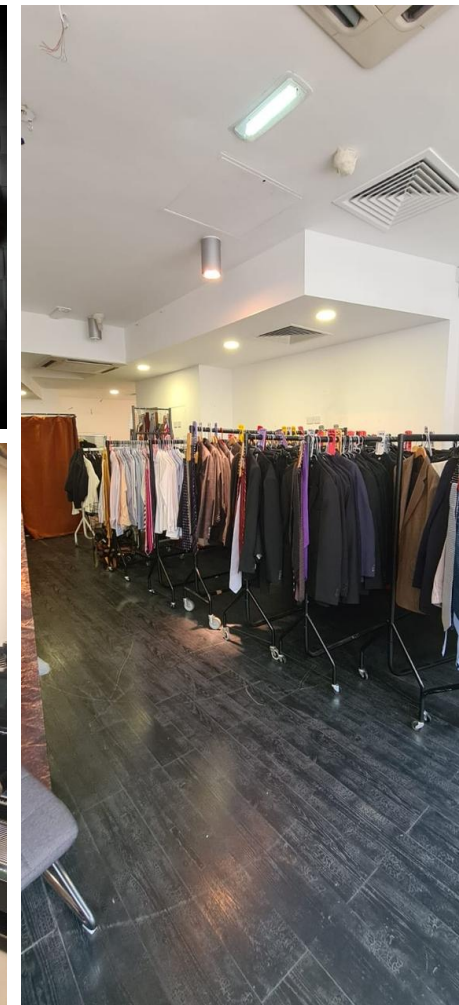
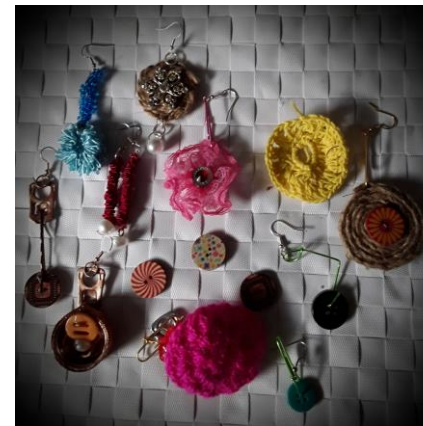
Every man who is referred to them gets an hour's personal attention from a volunteer professional stylist, who fits them with a suit, shirt, tie and accessories. They also offer interview training, ensuring the client not only looks good but has confidence in themselves. In addition to this, funding supported 2 workshops at an HMP Young Offenders Institution

Outreach Roadshow - £8,500

Fat Macy's Foundation

They host a work experience programme at their restaurant and provide access to housing deposits, so that people living in temporary accommodation can feel engaged, motivated, have a sense of purpose and can learn new skills.

In order to reach the people most at need, they host Outreach Roadshows, where they host cooking classes and demonstrations in hostels to get people excited about their programme. This means they can meet people typically described as "hard to reach" and enrol them into their life changing programme.



SUPPORTED PROJECTS

Travel support to codebar workshops - £2,300

codebar

They've run free weekly programming workshops since 2013, and were looking to financially support their community members to enable them to attend their in-person workshops. This has huge value for them, as it allows them to connect with other members of the community who may be going through similar experiences.

Young Leaders Programme - £6,500

XLP Youth Charity

They currently work in 20 of London's most deprived communities, and want to continue to provide a safe space for young people after school to be able to access healthy food with the support from a qualified youth worker.

Funding went to supporting their Community Youth work Bus project, which provides a warm safe space in some of the most deprived communities in London, as well as food security, by giving young people access to healthy food and learning how to cook on a budget.



COMMUNITY VOICES

Quotes on the fund's impact

“It was a lifesaver, even if I was coming in for a few hours every week ... I feel much more confident now and I’m not as anxious as before. I am more comfortable with trying new things.”

Beneficiary – Fat Macy’s Foundation

“The coaches were highly engaged and genuinely interested in helping. I could feel that their desire to contribute was sincere.” “It was fantastic! Thank you.”

Beneficiaries – codebar

“I learned so much by attending this project... The discussion about climate issues was very thought provoking. It made me think a lot and how to limit my Carbin [sic] foot print”

Beneficiary – Forget me not memory café

“If I had any problems going on at home XLP Youth workers would always be advising me on what to do... I NEVER felt alone”

Beneficiary – XLP Youth Charity

“Our Bus Project supports some of the most complex and challenging young people across XLP. We have really committed to supporting this group, coming alongside, building relationships, connecting with other professionals and meeting the young people’s needs wherever we can”

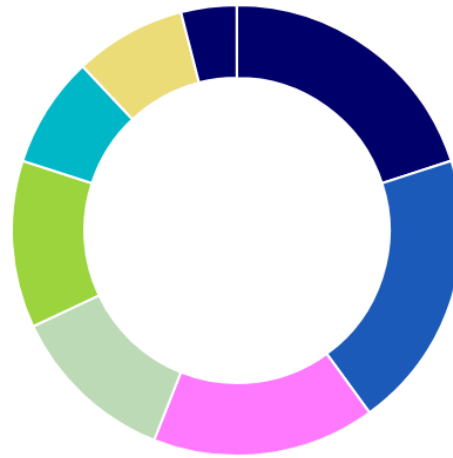
Volunteer – XLP Youth Charity

“Your assistance has made a significant difference, and I feel so much more confident moving forward thanks to your generosity... I am also deeply touched by the hospitality you extended... These thoughtful gestures did not go unnoticed and made my experience even more positive and welcoming”

Beneficiary – Suited & Booted

THEMES OF COMMUNITY GROUPS SUPPORTED

The community groups chosen were selected to provide a range of activities, which supported the below United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs):



- SDG4 - Quality Education
- SDG8 - Decent work & economic growth
- SDG3 - Good health & wellbeing
- SDG1 - No poverty
- SDG10 - Reduced inequalities
- SDG7 - Affordable & clean energy
- SDG12 - Responsible consumption & production
- other - Other

OUTPUTS & OUTCOMES

Waste not want not

Forget me not memory café

- 6 recycled jewellery workshops delivered
- 2 climate change talks and discussion delivered

Forward With Confidence

The Suited & Booted Centre Limited

- 18 men styled with a suit and accessories
- 2 workshops run at HMP Youth Offender Institution Isis, for 12 young men each

Outreach Roadshow

Fat Macy's Foundation

- 333 Work experience training hours
- 37 Therapy sessions
- 261 1:1 Support hours
- 3 Group employment workshops
- 18 Mentoring sessions

Travel support to codebar workshops

codebar

- 76 travel bursaries granted for people to travel to/from workshops

Young Leaders Programme

XLP Youth Charity

- 26 weekly cooking and healthy eating sessions delivered



OUTPUT & OUTCOMES

80% of projects agreed:

- "This support has increased the engagement of beneficiaries so they are more likely to come back in the future"
- "This support has positively impacted our wider community"
- "This support has positively impacted our community organisation or project"

60% of projects agreed:

- "This support has made us more aware of what Cheapside Business Alliance is doing in our community"
- "This support has helped increase the awareness of our project or group locally"



THANK YOU