



The World Community  
for Christian Meditation

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## **ANNEX 2: SHARING THE GIFT OF MEDITATION – A NEW OPPORTUNITY GRANT CRITERIA AND GUIDANCE**

This should be read in conjunction with the associated document: -  
**Sharing The Gift Of Meditation – A New Opportunity, General Introduction**

### **General Criteria and Guidance**

- All grants should help further WCCM's mission, in accordance with the objectives set out above.
- We hope applicants will be inspired to think broadly and 'out of the box' about how to engage the wider community with the life-changing potential of meditation.
- Grants will be given to projects that have been well thought out and grounded with clear vision and goals, even if these goals are not easily quantifiable.
- Projects can be local or further afield, with the expectation that projects will reach people within England, Scotland or Wales.
- In general, there will be no requirement to generate a financial return as a result of the project work funded by a grant although project leaders will need to be clear about anticipated outcomes.
- Projects can be carried out locally (i.e. church, church halls, village halls, etc.) or in established institutions (i.e. schools, universities, prisons, hospitals etc.).
- We would like to encourage projects that are inclusive and which will reach specific audiences (e.g. young people, interfaith activities, setting up new groups) or which include meditation in order to address key social issues, such as (but not limited to) mental health, social exclusion, social cohesion and people living on the margins of society.
- We are willing to consider assisting funding research projects where meditation is at the core of the research. For the avoidance of doubt, WCCM in the UK or CUF cannot be considered the sponsor of any research projects.
- We would also be interested in projects that equip clergy or other Christian leaders for contemplative ministry (e.g. helping them to develop and sustain meditation in challenging contexts).
- Grants may be available for development of resources but not books.

### **Guidelines for Projects**

- Grants are intended to fund projects either led by, or that will include, the participation of existing members of the WCCM community in the UK. We define members as people who have an active connection to the community. Any non-members wishing to apply for funding should secure the support of a member willing to champion the project if funding is successful. If potential applicants require connecting with a member of the community, please contact the National Coordinator in the first instance.

- It is a condition of all grants that projects must have the involvement of existing meditators who are part of the WCCM UK community. Therefore, the geographical reach of grants will be limited by the practicalities associated with this.
- Project work may reflect 'tried and tested' methods (e.g. introductory events, courses and retreats).
- Project work may reflect innovative and experimental methods (e.g. setting up a meditation yurt, pilot project in a hospice or developing a centre for school teachers).
- With regard to events, conferences, seminars etc., these are expected generally to be self-financing although there will be exceptions to this (e.g. events for the homeless) where it is not feasible to generate revenue from participants. Grant applications in this context could help to provide seed corn for future events. We would like to encourage more local events in areas or places where these have not been considered before and guidance can be sought from others (e.g. the Regional or National Coordinator of WCCM in the UK) when developing these ideas.
- Grants will usually be made to a group with a named project leader rather than an individual. However, there may be circumstances where this does not apply and, if it is necessary to transfer funds to an individual bank account, receipts to accompany all expenditure or a formal estimate of associated costs will be required.
- Project leaders will have relevant experience and demonstrable skills to carry out the project. There will also need to be good financial controls in place and, for all group applications:
  - An Association bank account will need to be available to accept grant funding and receipts to accompany all expenditure will be required or
  - A registered charitable body with a solid track record and a bank account will need to be available to accept grant funding.
- Projects may be one off, recurring or ongoing. However, the maximum project length is 2 years. Any extension to this period will require an application for further funds, which will be assessed based on the outputs and impact associated with the first grant.
- Any resources developed, as a result of grant funding, should carry WCCM identity (e.g. the doves logo) details of which are available from the WCCM in the UK office.
- Grantees will be asked to submit a report at intervals during the project and/or on completion of the project.

### **Projects That We Probably Won't Fund**

- Activities that are already happening, repeated projects or projects that have already been completed.
- Projects that are already included in the curriculum of schools, colleges or universities although projects that encourage schools to introduce meditation practice will be considered.
- Large capital expenditure relating to buildings. Small capital expenditure (for example a computer screen or filing cabinet) within the context of an eligible project may be available.
- Organisations with significant free or unrestricted reserves or with a weak financial position.
- Deficits or loans. If you are planning an event and a loan is the best option to get your project going, please apply directly to the National Coordinator of WCCM in the UK.

### **Safeguarding**

Most of our work with young people and vulnerable adults is carried out within the context of a larger organisation with existing safeguarding protocol in place. If your project involves work in these areas, your project application will need to show what steps are being taken to ensure robust safeguarding measures have been taken.