

The Kensington & Chelsea Foundation invests in local Organisation Champions as part of its long-term commitment to the North Kensington community

Through a partnership between the Kensington & Chelsea Foundation and the Big Lottery Fund, **£240,000** has been awarded to local organisations who were exceptional in the response to the Grenfell Tower tragedy and are continuing to empower and support local people in the North Kensington community. The K&C Foundation has invested £190,000 with a further £50,000 from the Big Lottery Fund, the largest community funder in the UK.

To be considered as an **Organisation Champion**, community organisations were asked to submit an Expression of Interest and in the spirit of collaboration were invited to commend others they felt had played a key role in response to the fire.

A panel with local knowledge met with organisation representatives to thank them for their outstanding work and to discuss their future plans to support the community. The panel included representatives from the Big Lottery Fund, Cynthia Dize, local resident and K&C Foundation trustee, Eman Yosry, local resident and Zoe Dainton, a former Grenfell Tower resident and Grenfell United Committee Member.

Zoe Dainton says “It’s important to me that the amazing local organisations who did so much for the survivors, the bereaved and many others who were affected by the fire should receive recognition. Not only that, they deserve to be helped to support us all as we begin to rebuild our community”.

These are the **Organisation Champions** agreed by the panel and the amounts awarded:

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| The ClementJames Centre | £30,000 |
| Rugby Portobello Trust | £30,000 |
| The Muslim Cultural Heritage Centre Trust * | £30,000 |
| Latymer Community Church* | £30,000 |
| Latimer Community Art Therapy | £30,000 |
| Harrow Club | £30,000 |
| Lancaster West Children’s Community Network ** | £20,000 |
| Baraka Community Organisation | £20,000 |
| Volunteer Centre Kensington & Chelsea | £10,000 |
| ACAVA – Association for Cultural Advancement through Visual Art | £10,000 |

To enable sustained support for local people, it’s intended that grants will be repeated in 2019 and 2020 by both the K&C Foundation and the Big Lottery Fund subject to successful annual outcomes.

“It was a privilege to be part of the panel to hear the stories of how our local community partners did what they did to help people during the early days post-Grenfell and to hear their determination and plans to support people for the long-term” Susan Dolton, K&C Foundation Director.

Elly De Decker, Head of Funding at the Big Lottery Fund, said: “This investment in North Kensington’s community organisations is important because local people understand what’s needed in their community better than anyone else.”

Organisation Champions is the second strand of the K&C Foundation’s Grenfell Community Development Fund which will see £1.6 million invested in the North Kensington community between 2018-2020. The first strand is **Green Shoots**, an ongoing source of funding for small, one-off projects to be enjoyed by local people with grants of up to £1,000.

The K&C Foundation is also working with local partners on the third strand which is to identify **Community Investment Programmes** which are collaborative and wanted and needed by local people.

Here are citations from the panel for the **Organisation Champions**

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| The ClementJames Centre |
| Because of its long history, local people instinctively went to ClementJames when the tragedy happened, knowing they would find practical and compassionate care. ClementJames is committed to empowering the community to release its potential for the long-term. |
| Rugby Portobello Trust |
| Since opening their doors on the night of the fire, RPT provided a safe-haven and displayed great bravery and resilience in its mission to support local people during some very dark and difficult days. They are committed to providing ongoing support to people for as long as it is needed. |
| The Muslim Cultural Heritage Centre Trust |
| Al-Manaar has played a central role in the response to Grenfell, displaying outstanding care and support to the community irrespective of colour, gender, creed, faith or no faith. They aim to promote community cohesion through understanding, tolerance and shared values. |
| Latymer Community Church |
| Latymer Community Church was a place where people found sanctuary and support after the fire. As a local centre for local people, they believe that healing from Grenfell will come from within our resilient and courageous community. |
| Latimer Community Art Therapy |
| The services of Latimer Community Art Therapy began on 17 June from the Henry Dickens estate. Their growth has been entirely community led and developed with passion and commitment. The impact of their work has been commended by people across North Kensington. |
| Harrow Club |
| The Harrow Club stepped up from the night of the fire, providing human comfort and accommodation as well as distributing donations. They fostered a feeling of stability, especially for young people and they will provide continuing enhanced support so that these young people can achieve their full potential. |
| Lancaster West Children's Community Network |
| The nursery lost its home which was in Grenfell Tower and yet its staff quickly came together to provide vital support to families at the heart of the Lancaster West Estate. They will continue their work to provide stability to families and children at a time of continuing uncertainty. |
| Baraka Community Organisation |
| Ingrained in the fabric of North Kensington for nearly two decades, Baraka built on its foundations of understanding, compassion and trust in its response to the fire. It will continue its work to empower young people from migrant communities on their journey to successful lives. |
| Volunteer Centre Kensington & Chelsea |
| Community Champions from the Volunteer Centre working on the Lancaster West and Silchester estates were on hand to contribute to the emergency response, helping local people and organisations. They will help local people develop their own well-being solutions. |
| ACAVA – Association for Cultural Advancement through Visual Art |
| ACAVA has a long history within the local community. It is delivering the Grenfell Memorial Community Mosaic with local community partners. ACAA is also working with local schools and delivering art for wellbeing projects including Flourish for families, and Artspace for adults. |

The Kensington & Chelsea Foundation is an independent charity set up 10 years ago. Since then, we've worked successfully to bring the community together to tackle the inequalities faced by many across the borough which the Grenfell Tower tragedy brought into stark relief. We spotlight issues that disadvantage our local community and raise the funds and resources to tackle them. We invest these in local organisations to collectively address local needs and build a stronger community.

For further information contact: team@thekandcfoundation.com 020 7229 5449

* The Muslim Cultural Heritage Centre Trust and Latymer Community Church will not be funded by the Big Lottery Fund

** Zoe Dainton and Eman Yosry declared an interest in Lancaster West Children's Community Network and did not take part in any discussions relating to this award