

Funders Meeting

On the 27th April, we met with some of our local funders: Hammersmith United Charities; Dr Edwards and Bishop King's Fulham Charity; and UNITED in Hammersmith and Fulham. Kensington and Chelsea were also represented with a local funder.

We had 66 participant organisations interacting with the funders about potential applications. And what was really good was that the funders expressed what they liked to see in terms of applications, as well as talking about their priorities. The whole event lasted about 1 and a half hours and everyone, who wanted to, got to speak to the funder.

These were just some of the points the funders made:

- 1) Whatever it is you do it may be to do with the key issues to which they fund e.g. poverty hardship and distress.
- 2) Always ensure you explain why what you do meets what the funder wants to fund. It is not always obvious to them.
- 3) Use their application forms and answer the questions, and if unsure call them.
- 4) Be very clear in your applications. Do not assume the funders know your subject or why your application is important
- 5) Be clear about the need and be clear why your organisation is best placed to meet that need
- 6) Remember case studies and or testimonials can be important, adding weight to your application
- 7) And collaboration is good
- 8) Figures and budgets should be as detailed as possible.

As Jonathan from Dr Edwards and Bishop King said, "It's a little bit like Dragon's Den. You not only have to have a good idea, but you have to show how it will work, who benefits and what the costs are."

If you need someone independent to talk through your application or your idea, then by all means contact Nigel at Sobus, who will help you. His email is nigel.jacques@sobus.org.uk

Take a look at our local funders websites and follow them on social media:

Hammersmith United Charities <https://hamunitedcharities.org.uk/>

Dr Edwards and Bishop King <https://www.debk.org.uk/>

UNITED in Hammersmith and Fulham <https://unitedhf.org/>

Our next meeting with a funder will be with the Lloyds Bank Foundation on 27th May at 10:00.

Follow Sobus on twitter: https://twitter.com/sobus_h_f