



Masonic

Charitable Foundation

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Registered Charity number 1164703. A company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales company number 09751836.

For Freemasons, for families, for everyone

The Masonic Charitable Foundation builds better lives by enabling opportunity, advancing healthcare and education and promoting independence for Freemasons, their families and the wider community.

Funded entirely through the generosity of Freemasons and their families, the Masonic Charitable Foundation is one of the largest grant-making charities in the country.

Our origins

The Masonic Charitable Foundation became operational in 2016 to provide a wide range of financial, health and family support to Freemasons, their families and the wider community.

The Foundation brings together the work of The Freemasons' Grand Charity, the Royal Masonic Trust for Girls and Boys, the Masonic Samaritan Fund and the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. These charities existed separately under various names from the early 18th Century and provided specific types of support to Freemasons and their families.

How do we help?

A wide range of help and support is available for financial, health and family related needs, including:

Financial

- Essential daily living costs
- Grants following an accident, redundancy or personal crisis
- Funeral bills
- Minor home repairs

Health

- Medical treatment
- Dental treatment
- Mobility aids and essential home adaptations
- Respite care
- Counselling

Family – Children in full-time education

- Essential costs for education or training
- Scholarships, travel grants and student accommodation
- Supporting exceptional talent in sport, music or the performing arts

Family – Older people

- Masonic care homes – including nursing, residential, respite and dementia care
- UK holidays

Practical assistance

The Advice & Support Team offer confidential, impartial and practical guidance about the help we can provide. The Team can also help with applications for state and local authority benefits and can put you in touch with other organisations who can give advice on care, employment and education.

Who is eligible?

Those seeking support must demonstrate the following:

A Masonic connection

Those seeking support must be a Freemason or have a strong family connection to a Freemason under the United Grand Lodge of England. The Freemason does not necessarily need to be a currently subscribing member, but he must have joined before the need arose.

A financial, health or family need

Many needs follow a decrease in household income, but they may also arise because of a life-changing event such as a medical diagnosis, changing care needs, family breakdown or the death of a family member.

Can we help you?

If you would like to speak to someone about the range of support available to Freemasons and their families, please speak to your Lodge Almoner or call our dedicated freephone enquiry line:

0800 035 60 90

Enquiries can also be sent to:
help@mcf.org.uk

Write to:
Masonic Charitable Foundation
60 Great Queen Street
London WC2B 5AZ

Community Support and Research

In addition to the support we provide to Freemasons and their families, the Masonic Charitable Foundation looks beyond Freemasonry, making significant financial grants to charities that help people to live happy fulfilled lives and to participate actively in society.

To achieve this aim, grants are awarded to registered charities that provide support in the following areas:

- Education and employability for disadvantaged children and young people
- Financial hardship for those in poverty, debt or unemployment
- Health and disability for people experiencing chronic or life-limiting conditions and disabilities
- Social exclusion and disadvantage for those facing barriers to participating in society

We also provide funding to:

- Advance medical and social research
- Hospices throughout England and Wales
- Air ambulance and rescue services

Funding is also provided to support major natural disaster relief appeals at the discretion of the President.

The charities we support make a significant and lasting difference to people in need. We aim to benefit as many people as possible and further those causes about which Freemasons and their families have told us they are most concerned.

To find out more about our Community Support and Research grants, please visit: mcf.org.uk/community



Alongside the thousands of people helped by our Community Support and Research grants, we have also helped to improve the lives of around 9,000 life-limited, disabled children through our support for Lifelites, a charity which provides educational and fun technology packages for every baby and children's hospice in the British Isles. Founded as a Masonic initiative, Lifelites has become a well-established charity in its own right and fundraises from Freemasons and other sources. We help by providing office premises and administrative services meaning Lifelites can focus on delivering its life-enhancing technology.

Support by Masonic Province

Province	Last five years (£)	Last 12 months (£)	Grants awarded to individuals during last 12 months
Bedfordshire	541,062	90,928	26
Berkshire	1,514,842	250,952	78
Bristol	466,547	76,026	31
Buckinghamshire	1,229,434	182,810	66
Cambridgeshire	520,565	94,378	23
Cheshire	1,735,170	315,549	133
Cornwall	1,553,269	364,008	98
Cumberland and Westmorland	726,347	103,975	41
Derbyshire	1,046,616	149,209	53
Devonshire	2,333,721	382,853	123
Dorset	1,220,855	227,614	72
Durham	2,062,703	339,212	134
East Kent	2,105,188	410,303	161
East Lancashire	3,094,215	484,588	191
Essex	4,597,911	792,340	239
Gloucestershire	1,341,039	280,771	96
Guernsey and Alderney	-	-	-
Hampshire and Isle of Wight	3,024,387	509,988	164
Herefordshire	437,603	76,527	29
Hertfordshire	1,971,620	320,465	68
Isle of Man	62,885	-	-
Jersey	151,231	754	2
Leicestershire and Rutland	1,561,498	291,139	74
Lincolnshire	1,328,453	222,858	78
London	12,824,896	2,129,580	528
Middlesex	2,210,834	361,446	99
Monmouthshire	613,506	140,531	40
Norfolk	875,727	174,025	50
North Wales	1,364,599	308,648	82
Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire	1,218,937	221,382	78
Northumberland	2,137,056	418,247	116
Nottinghamshire	764,290	130,240	43
Oxfordshire	338,305	63,361	13
Shropshire	285,601	40,447	23
Somerset	1,019,704	196,949	62
South Wales	3,907,079	819,409	200

Staffordshire	764,796	108,324	33
Suffolk	1,397,468	365,703	64
Surrey	4,097,067	619,172	160
Sussex	3,084,412	575,988	154
Warwickshire	1,365,909	225,116	69
West Kent	2,042,660	400,080	116
West Lancashire	6,221,231	947,617	381
West Wales	938,944	112,464	45
Wiltshire	678,612	110,228	36
Worcestershire	888,558	110,422	59
Yorkshire, North and East Ridings	1,976,004	336,142	122
Yorkshire, West Riding	2,548,585	603,634	144
Total	88,191,941	15,486,402	4,697

Figures for 12 months show Jan – Dec 2015; Figures for 5 years show Jan 2010 – Dec 2015.

Fundraising

We rely upon the generosity of Freemasons and their families to enable us to provide our range of charitable support. We do not fundraise from members of the public or use street collections.

Festival Appeals

Each year, four Masonic Provinces hold a Festival to celebrate raising funds for our work. During the years leading up to the Festival, fundraising events and activities take place that make a significant contribution to our income. There are many ways to fundraise including sponsored challenges and social events. We are extremely grateful to everyone who supports us.

2017	Sussex (Grand Charity) North Wales (RMTGB) Yorkshire, West Riding (RMBI) Wiltshire (MSF)
2018	Gloucestershire (Grand Charity) Nottinghamshire (RMTGB) Yorkshire, North & East Ridings (MSF)
2019	Shropshire (Grand Charity) Hertfordshire (RMTGB) Suffolk (RMBI) Surrey (RMBI) Bristol (MSF)
2020	Somerset (Grand Charity) Middlesex (RMTGB) Northumberland (RMBI) Herefordshire (MSF)
2021	Buckinghamshire (MCF) West Lancashire (MCF) Durham (RMTGB) South Wales (RMBI)
2022	Leicestershire and Rutland (MCF) Worcestershire (MCF) Oxfordshire (MCF) Essex (MCF)

Donating to Festivals

To find out how to make a donation to your Province's Festival Appeal, please visit mcf.org.uk or call 020 3146 3333.

Legacies

Legacy gifts make an important contribution to the funding of our work. Every gift, large or small, can help to make a difference to those assisted through our grant-making programmes.

The Relief Chest Scheme

The Relief Chest Scheme is a free service that Lodges, Chapters, Provinces and other recognised Masonic organisations can use to manage their charitable giving efficiently.

The Relief Chest Scheme holds the funds in a dedicated account and uses its charitable status to provide a range of benefits to the donor, including reclaiming Gift Aid. The services provided by the Relief Chest Scheme relieve the chest holders of the burden of administration of charity funds, therefore saving time and resources and allowing them to concentrate on fundraising.

For further information, or to open a Relief Chest for your Lodge, Chapter or Appeal, please visit: www.mcf.org.uk/reliefchest

OTHER MASONIC CHARITIES

In addition to the Masonic Charitable Foundation, there are numerous other charities organised and run by Freemasons. There are far too many to list, but they include Provincial Benevolent Funds, Provincial Education and Relief Funds, Trusts set up and administered within individual Provinces, Funds associated with residential housing or supporting particular RMBI Homes, and sundry other organisations big and small, all concerned with caring for others.