## Health inequalities funding

Up to £450,000 of funds will be available to voluntary and community organisations; across Bradford and Craven; Calderdale, Harrogate, Kirklees, Leeds and Wakefield to help tackle the impact of COVID-19; on people's health and wellbeing. The West Yorkshire and Harrogate - Health Inequalities Fund which will launch on Tuesday 28 April is to help reduce the gap in health equalities across the area. **Voluntary and community organisations are invited to apply for grant funding** for up to £50,000. Six funds will be available for up to £25,000, with another six grants between £25,000 and £50,000.

The fund welcomes innovative ideas which deliver a partnership approach to reducing health inequalities by working across health and voluntary and community sector (VCS) partners. We are looking for sustainable interventions that go beyond the immediate impacts of the pandemic and seek to address the medium to longer term impacts on inequalities and increase resilience of individuals and communities.

The fund aims to create a catalyst for action across the partnership, mitigating against an increase in health inequalities that may be seen due to COVID-19. We will disseminate learning from successful applications to share and replicate good practice across the partnership.

The funding will focus on priority population groups that we believe may be disproportionately affected through the COVID-19 pandemic. These groups are:

- Low Income Families and those families who now find themselves in financial hardship as a result of COVID-19.
- People aged over 55 years living in areas ranked as being in the 10% most deprived nationally.
- People living with Mental Health Conditions, Learning Disabilities and Autism.

Applicants must be able to show that they are addressing a specific need in their community. The fund opens on 28<sub>h</sub> April 2020 and the deadline to apply is 5pm 8th June. Funding will be awarded in June 2020. Please do share with any local community groups or networks you think could enhance the lives of some of our most vulnerable people during these often difficult and challenging times, from Tuesday. For full details including criteria, exclusions and an application form please visit www.wyhpartnership.co.uk alternatively please contact sarah.smith23@nhs.net