



THE TRAVELLERS AID TRUST

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VIOLET CLEGG FUND

Small grants for Gypsies and Travellers

The **Violet Clegg Fund** offers grants of up to £250 to Travellers experiencing exceptional hardship or for the direct benefit of their community throughout the UK. All applications require a 'referee' agency or professional to support the application.

We try to make the application process quick and easy to access and are happy to give Travellers advice or help to complete application forms over the phone if required. We also rely on the agencies and professionals supporting applications or submitting them on behalf of Travellers to make sure that the information provided is complete and that other relevant avenues of funding have been considered before approaching us.

In order to avoid disappointment, delay and confusion, here are some points to bear in mind when applying to the Trust.

- **The Travellers Aid Trust is the only independent grant maker in the UK dedicated specifically to supporting the Traveller community. As a result of this, we are often the first port of call from Travellers needing help.**
- **We are a comparatively small grant maker and only award between 35 and 40 small grants a year. Because of this, we tend to give priority to applicants who cannot get help from anywhere else.**
- **There are a number of other independent grant makers who will provide grants for individuals and families in need - to help with such things as buying essential household items like beds, cookers and clothing. Many also support specific groups such as children, single parent families or the elderly experiencing hardship or poverty.**

In order to make the most of the limited grants we have to award each year, we will automatically check each application to see if there are other grant makers or statutory agencies who will offer support for the request being made. The cases in which this is most relevant are:

1. single parent families with young children, the elderly and the disabled
2. applications for help with the purchase of white goods (cookers, freezers, washing machines, etc...), bedding and clothing for children and other essential household items.
3. applications for people needing help with rent, deposits for housing or other essential services such as heating, building repairs, etc....

Our website lists a number of other grant makers who will support Travellers in need. If you would prefer a printed copy of the list, please let us know and we will send it out to you.

The other very important point is to give us enough information about the person or family who is asking for help. Simply saying that they are experiencing stress and need help is not sufficient. We need as much detail as you can provide about their situation so that the Trustees can make an informed decision. If you do not provide this with the initial application, you will cause further delays.

Help us to process applications quickly by making sure that you have:

- **Explained clearly and fully what is needed and why.**
- **Spoken or applied to other grant makers or service providers who may be able to help before you approach us.**

For an application pack, please call or write to us or download one from our website.