In 2019, The Hospital Saturday Fund will give £1.5 million in donations and grants to medical charities for care and research, hospices and hospitals across the UK and Ireland. Assistance will also be given to individuals whose illness or disability has caused financial difficulties.

£80,000 donated to UK Charities at City Chambers, Glasgow

Twenty-six Scottish charities received donations from The Hospital Saturday Fund at a special reception hosted at Glasgow City Chambers on 21 February 2019. In total, £80,000 was donated to the charities at the event, which was hosted by The Rt Hon Lord Provost of Glasgow, Councillor Eva Bolander, represented on the evening by The Lord Dean of Guild, Mr Ian Dickson.

Among the beneficiaries was Leonard Cheshire which received a donation towards their Go Digital! Project for access to health and inclusion via technology. The charity Children with Cancer and Leukaemia (CCLASP) received a grant towards the fitting out of their new respite centre and the Froglife Trust grant will be used to contribute to their dementia project. Also receiving grants were Scottish Huntington’s Association to enable them to provide an HD Specialist Service in Glasgow and Clyde, and the Orkney MS Therapy Centre who will use their grant to fund enabling therapies for MS sufferers in Orkney. A grant was made to Marie Curie for ‘Pay for A Day’ of care at their Glasgow hospice, and the Throat Cancer Foundation’s donation will be used to provide information booklets for patients, families and medical professionals.

Speaking at the reception on behalf of The Lord Provost, the Lord Dean of Guild celebrated the extraordinary work of all the charities receiving donations from The Hospital Saturday Fund. The Lord Provost of Glasgow, Councillor Eva Bolander, had nominated The Lord Provost’s Children’s Fund as her chosen charity for the event, and the donation from HSF will support applications relating to the areas of medical need, ill health or disability.

Paul Jackson, Chief Executive of The Hospital Saturday Fund said: “We are delighted to continue the tradition of supporting many wide-ranging charities in Scotland, many of which are less well-known. The Hospital Saturday Fund is honoured to support the efforts of such deserving charities and help in some way towards the exceptional, tireless work that they do in making such a huge and positive difference to people’s lives.”

Scuba Trust

HSF’s first underwater cheque presentation took place when Paul Jackson, HSF CEO, presented a cheque at the monthly dive of the Scuba Trust, a registered Charity for over 20 years and run entirely by dedicated and experienced volunteers. The Charity supports people with a wide range of disabilities, including: paraplegics, quadriplegics, the visually impaired, deaf, autistic and amputees. £5,500 will be put to replacing their ailing van used for transporting and storing equipment. The Charity has an excellent reputation within the diving community. Paul was told that a number of the Charity’s beneficiaries have said that scuba diving is the only time in their lives when they are pain-free so this sense of freedom can be life-changing.
MediCinema

MediCinema gives patients and their families a break from the ward, and all the difficulties of being in hospital, through the transformative power of cinema.

The Charity builds, installs and runs cinemas in hospitals. The cinemas are designed specifically to accommodate wheelchairs and hospital beds whilst maintaining a real and immersive cinema experience away from the wards, for patients and their families.

The first hospital cinema opened in 1999, and to date six MediCinemas have been built in five hospitals and one children’s care home. MediCinema plans to double the number of sites and triple the annual number of people they reach by 2025. The current number of patients using the service is over 18,000.

MediCinema improves the difficult reality of life in hospital for patients and their families throughout the UK, giving them the resilience they need to get through an incredibly difficult time.

Rainbow Trust

Rainbow Trust supports families who have a child aged 0-18 years with a life threatening or terminal illness who need a variety of support, mainly through the network of family support workers.

There are an estimated 49,000 children and young people in the UK living with a life limiting or life threatening conditions who may require palliative care (University of Leeds, 2011). Many of these children and their families are able to cope or are not in a ‘crisis situation’. However, thousands of families have to face the very real possibility that their child may die and they struggle to cope on a day to day basis.

Family Support Workers provide a life-line to these families and children. They support the whole family including parents, carers, the unwell child, brothers, sisters and grandparents. They bring support and help to families who so desperately need it at home, in hospital and in the community. Any family can receive support from the moment of their child or young person’s diagnosis and the referral usually comes through the strong links in place with children’s hospitals throughout England.

The grant will enable them to organise days out for siblings of terminally ill children.

London’s Air Ambulance

London’s Air Ambulance received a grant of £10,000 towards the provision of a Head Injury Research Fellow: shaping the future pre-hospital management of patients suffering devastating head injuries.

Attending were John Greenwood, HSF Chairman, Mark Davies, LAA Director of Development, Dee Wright, HSF Charity Coordinator, Sonia Dietrich-Smith, HSF health plan Customer Care Administrator, and LAA Doctors and Paramedics.

Mr French - Individual Grant

Mr French recently received a grant from HSF towards an electric wheelchair and this has enabled him to get out of the house and be independent, to watch his children playing. Erythromalalgia has meant he cannot hold walking sticks and his feet are so swollen and sore that he cannot wear shoes or be on his feet for long due to the the pain which triggers seizures. His wife was struggling to push his manual wheelchair so this grant has been a huge benefit.
PSP Association

Progressive Supranuclear Palsy (PSP) and Cortico Basal Degeneration (CBD) are degenerative diseases of the brain, which cause increasing levels of disability, until eventually the patient is likely to be entirely bedridden, unable to communicate, and in need of 24 hour care. At least 5,000 people are living with PSP/CBD in the UK, but the actual number could be more than 10,000 as many are wrongly diagnosed.

Life expectancy is between seven and ten years from the onset of symptoms. There are no effective treatments for PSP/CBD, and no cure, but there are a number of therapies that can help those living with these diseases manage the symptoms and improve their quality of life. One of the key ways the PSP Association supports people affected by PSP/CBD is through the provision of a Helpline and Information Service. This service, provided by telephone and email, ensures people living with PSP/CBD, and their carers, receive prompt emotional and practical support when it is needed. Their proactive approach helps to achieve a better quality of life for people with PSP/CBD and their carers by providing a fuller understanding of their own care needs, empowering them to make informed choices about their care and removing obstacles to care delivery.

HSF’s grant will help towards supporting the Helpline & Information Service for people living with PSP.

Queen’s University of Belfast Foundation

Established in 1849, the Queen’s University of Belfast’s School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences (School of Medicine) is one of the oldest in the UK. With an undergraduate population of 1,316 students from Northern Ireland, the UK and beyond, the School prides itself on providing a perfect balance between world class teaching cutting-edge facilities, and internationally recognised research infrastructures. Students from the School of Medicine have been successfully undertaking elective placements for decades and they are seen as an essential aspect of the undergraduate course curriculum. Every year 240-275 students undertake a medical elective placement, gaining essential skills and perspectives on national and international healthcare practices.

HSF’s grant of £10,000 will be used to support 10 fourth year medical students to undertake overseas medical electives.

Slough Homeless Our Concern

Slough and the surrounding area is a region badly affected by homelessness and social exclusion. It is an urban area of extremes and great diversity. While the town itself is home to a large number of successful international companies, around 15% of Slough’s residents live in communities that are among the 20% most deprived income areas in the country.

SHOC is a day centre that exists to provide care for the homeless in Slough and those at risk of becoming homeless. It is the only centre within a 20-mile radius that offers the homeless both crisis care and long term transformational help towards independence. The Charity was founded in 1997 and it has helped over a thousand people in the last 20 years. The Charity has been awarded the Slough Mayor’s Charity of the Year 2011 and a Queen’s Award for Voluntary Service in 2012. SHOC has over 300 clients and it helps around 40 people each day at Serena Hall.

HSF’s grant of £9,000 will help towards the provision of a Health Coach.
The Hospital Saturday Fund (HSF) is a UK charity that was founded in 1873 by pioneers in social and philanthropic work to help people to afford medical care. In recent times, the Fund has 'tailored' its benefits and these are now offered through HSF health plan, one of the leading health cash plans in the UK and Ireland. Profits from the trading company, HSF health plan, are channelled into the 'parent' charity, The Hospital Saturday Fund, to enable charity donations to be made. In 2019 The Hospital Saturday Fund will give £1.5 million in donations and grants to medical charities, hospices and hospitals across the UK and Ireland. Assistance will also be given to individuals whose illness or disability has caused financial difficulties.

**Grant Information**

**Who can apply:**
The Hospital Saturday Fund is a registered charity whose aims are to provide assistance through its charitable funds for:

- Registered medical health charities which are in need of grants for medical projects, care, research or in support of medical training within the United Kingdom, Isle of Man, Channel Islands and Republic of Ireland;
- Individuals with a medical condition or disability who would benefit from assistance with the purchase of specialised equipment or from particular forms of treatment.

For how to apply see the HSF website for criteria and link to the online application form:

[www.hospitalsaturdayfund.org](http://www.hospitalsaturdayfund.org)

**Applications for Organisations:**
The Grant Making Committee (GMC) meets quarterly. Applications should be submitted online by close of business on the deadline date. Here are the dates for 2019:

- **GMC 28 January 2019**
  - Standard Grants of £2,000 or €3,000 – deadline 4 January 2019
  - Large Grants of up to max £10,000 or €13,500 – 1 December 2018
- **GMC 29 May 2019**
  - Standard Grants of £2,000 or €3,000 – deadline 1 May 2019
  - Large Grants of up to max £10,000 or €13,500 – deadline 3 April 2019
- **GMC 12 August 2019**
  - Standard Grants of £2,000 or €3,000 – deadline 15th July 2019
  - Large Grants of up to max £10,000 or €13,500 – deadline 17 June 2019
- **GMC 4 November 2019**
  - Standard Grants of £2,000 or €3,000 – deadline 7 October 2019
  - Large Grants of up to max £10,000 or €13,500 – deadline 9 September 2019
- **GMC January 2020** (dates for 2020 to be confirmed in December 2019)
  - Standard Grants of £2,000 or €3,000 – deadline 6 January 2020
  - Large Grants of up to max £10,000 or €13,500 – deadline 1 December 2019

**Applications for Individuals:**
Individual applications are accepted throughout the year on a rolling basis. See the guidelines on our website for further information.