FitzRoy was founded almost 60 years ago by parents of children with learning disabilities who were appalled to discover that the only ‘care’ available for them was to live in an institution. Determined to do more, FitzRoy pioneered an entirely different kind of support — family-style, loving homes where autistic adults and those with learning disabilities could enjoy the same opportunities as everyone else, not just to live, but to thrive. They run over 82 different services around the country. Fitzroy had requested funding towards a new Project Coordinator to enable them to expand their Love4Life project in Southampton where there is a growing demand. In January 2022 they were awarded £10,000 by HSF towards the project.

St John Ambulance Northern Ireland

St John Ambulance Northern Ireland is NI’s leading first aid charity with over 1,700 adult volunteers, cadets and badgers. The Charity provides emergency first aid, delivers medical cover at events, and trains people of all ages in vital first aid skills, so that they can make a difference in times of need. Worldwide, St John Ambulance comprises over 250,000 members. St John’s vision is that everyone who needs it should receive first aid from those around them. No one should suffer due to a lack of trained first aiders. They explained that the ambulance based at the Enniskillen Unit is St John’s only vehicle based in the southwest of Northern Ireland. The Unit is completely run by volunteers. St John Ambulance service has changed due to the pandemic. The service currently carries out far more patient transfers than in 2019. They received a grant of £4,000 towards an ECG monitor.
Coventry Resource Centre for the Blind

Coventry Resource Centre for the Blind is a registered charity that provides practical and social support for blind and partially sighted people, and their families and carers, in the Coventry area. They offer a wide range of activities including social groups, a music group, the allotment club and the craft group, as well as training sessions in computers, smartphones, tablets and braille. They also provide hands-on access to products and technology designed to make living with a visual impairment a little easier.

They offer a door-to-door minibus service and above all they guarantee a warm welcome in a safe environment.

Their application was to support their wide-ranging, weekly programmes of continuing, long term community-based support and rehabilitation services to adults from across Coventry with sight impairment.

Individuals can self-refer but mostly do so prompted by the local hospital ophthalmology department, Social Services or GPs. They see each individual to assess their current and future sight loss needs, find solutions to assist with daily, independent living, and provide them with a choice of classes and courses which are designed to support their practical, emotional and social support needs. Braille classes, IT and Smart technology teaching sessions run 4 times a week and allow people to maximise their communication skills to stay connected with others and to manage their own affairs as far as possible. They run yoga, Tai Chi and Blind Bowls sessions, cookery skills, craft activities, an allotment group, a social club and a creative writing group which all support mental and physical health.

“I don’t know where I’d be without the Resource Centre. They’ve been so helpful. It’s really helped me along.”

Clapton Common Boys Club

Clapton Common Boys Club is a small charity based in Hackney, London, whose mission is to help all children and especially those with learning difficulties.

As part of their current Special Needs support programmes, they plan to remodel their OT unit, with a brand range of new up-to-date Occupational Therapy sensory resources and equipment. The unit supports CYP according to their age (children aged 5-8 years) and (aged 9-16 years); who are challenged with mild to moderate learning difficulties, which arise from difficulties in one or more of the following areas: Sensory processing, motor and cognitive skills or psychosocial. The area they are based in is one of the most deprived areas of London and the support they can provide is essential for these children.

They were awarded £5,286 at the January Grant Making Committee.

John Greenwood, Chair of HSF presenting to Ahron Klein, Chair at Clapton Common Boys Club. A grant of £5,286 was awarded towards their special needs support programme.
Cornwall Hospice Care

Cornwall Hospice Care consists of two Hospices; Mount Edgcumbe Hospice in St Austell, and Julia’s Hospice in Hayle. The Charity also provides patients with palliative care in the community. Cornwall Hospice Care’s aim is for all people living with terminal illness in Cornwall to be able to access the care and support they may need at a time and place that is right for them and their families.

In the 1970s, doctors involved in the treatment of Cancer wanted to establish a unit in Cornwall which specialised in the relief of pain. They discussed those needs with the Plymouth and Cornwall Cancer Fund, whose president was Lady Mount Edgcumbe. Mount Edgcumbe Hospice is the legacy of a remarkable woman, Mrs Enid Dalton-White MBE who led the campaign to raise the funds needed to provide the first ever hospice in Cornwall. With enormous commitment and dedication, Mrs Dalton-White worked tirelessly to find the money needed and her efforts were finally rewarded on 6 October 1980, when the hospice opened its doors to patients for the first time.

Our grant will help to set up a hub in Redruth, the second largest town in Cornwall. These types of Hubs are extremely important in Cornwall as it is much harder for people to travel to hospices in different areas of the county, due to the poor road infrastructure and a number of people couldn’t afford to travel due to the high rates of poverty in Cornwall.

The Hospice estimated that the Hub will support 1,000 patients, family members and carers per annum.

Welsh Air Ambulance

In late 2019, a new service was created for patients who have been treated by their critical care teams, the Patient & Family Liaison Nurse (PFLN), based in Cardiff.

The main purpose of the Patient & Family Liaison Nurse is to ensure all patients or bereaved relatives are offered aftercare following the Welsh Air Ambulance attendance at an incident, with face-to-face visits. The Patient & Family Liaison Nurse provides explanations about what has happened at the scene whilst giving psychological support to both patient and relatives.

They were awarded £5,000 by HSF towards this project.

Individual Grant Update

Logan is 9 years old and has cerebral palsy. After multiple surgeries recently, he has had a big drop in confidence and self esteem and is trying to maintain a three hour a day physio rehabilitation programme. His physiotherapist applied to us for a safe garden for Logan to enjoy football and basketball which are his passions, and improve his mental well-being.

The photograph says it all, Logan was awarded £1,000 towards his safe garden.

Logan’s parents wrote the following thank you;

“I just wanted to say with all our hearts, we can't thank you enough for supporting the project of getting Logan back outdoors. As you can see, Logan couldn’t wait for the slabs to be put down and has been out as much as he can playing football on his Astro turf football pitch, which is an absolute joy to see as he couldn’t use the garden at all before. We couldn’t have achieved this without your support and I will be forever indebted to you all.”
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 2022 The Hospital Saturday Fund will give £2.1 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 charities, hospices and medical organisations which are in need of grants for medical projects, care, research or 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

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 2022:

GMC 17 May 2022
Standard Grants of £2,000 or €3,000 – deadline 20 April 2022
Large Grants of up to max £10,000 or €13,500 – deadline 23 March 2022

GMC 9 August 2022
Standard Grants of £2,000 or €3,000 – deadline 13 July 2022
Large Grants of up to max £10,000 or €13,500 – deadline 15 June 2022

GMC 3 November 2022
Standard Grants of £2,000 or €3,000 – deadline 7 October 2022
Large Grants of up to max £10,000 or €13,500 – deadline 9 September 2022

GMC January 2023 (all dates for 2023 meetings to be confirmed in December 2022)
Standard Grants of £2,000 or €3,000 – deadline 4 January 2023
Large Grants of up to max £10,000 or €13,500 – deadline 1 December 2022

Applications for Individuals:

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