

COVID 19 Emergency Fund for BME Women’s Organisations

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Do organisations have to be registered as a charity to apply?

No, but their activities must be charitable, legal and for the benefit of BME women and/ or girls. They must also have all of the supporting documents listed in the application guidance.

I'm personally affected by the coronavirus pandemic, can individuals apply?

We understand the outbreak is having a huge impact on many individuals and communities across the UK. Unfortunately, Rosa is unable to fund individuals. This fund has been set up to support BME women's organisations to continue their vital work during the coronavirus crisis. If you are a women's organisation you need not be a registered charity, but your activities must be charitable (for the public benefit), not for profit, legal and for the benefit of women or girls.

[Turn2us](#) is a good source of information and support for individuals.

How much can I apply for?

BME women led refuge providers can apply for up to to £35,000 for up to 12 months. Other BME women led organisations providing ending violence against women and girls (VAWG) services can apply for up to £20,000 for up to 12 months.

We are keen to ensure organisations do not depend too heavily on one funding source therefore we do not expect the grant request to exceed more than a third of your organisation's annual income. However we will review this on a case by case basis.

What types of organisations will you fund?

- This fund is specifically open to BME women's organisations that address violence against Black and minoritised women and girls i.e. women and girls which are defined in policy terms as Black and 'Minority Ethnic' (BME). Rosa defines BME women's organisations as those run by and for black and/or minoritised women and girls. This means that organisations should have the principal objective of working with BME women and girls and where the majority of beneficiaries of the

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organisation as a whole are, and always will be, BME women and girls. We will review your organisation's constitution, website and management committee in light of this

- Organisations that serve a charitable purpose
- Organisations that are committed to social justice and equality for women
- Organisations must have been active for at least a year and can submit annual accounts for a whole year

What type of work will you fund?

This is a closed programme which means that applications can only be made by organisations that have been specifically invited to apply. Grants aim to help meet the immediate and direct needs arising from the Covid 19 crisis for BME women's organisations addressing violence against women and girls (VAWG).

Eligible organisations can apply for one of two possible grants as follows:

- 1) Grants of up to £35,000 for BME women led refuge providers
- 2) Grants of up to £20,000 for BME women led organisations providing ending VAWG services.

Grants for BME women led refuge providers

Refuge providers must be led by BME women which specialise in ending violence against women and girls (VAWG) and where VAWG forms the main purpose of the organisation.

Grant size: Up to £35,000

Funding period: Up to 12 months

Aim: To provide support primarily for small and medium sized BME women led refuge providers to help cover costs directly associated with providing increased or adapted services during this period. We encourage organisations to consider what it will take to run your refuge service when considering what to apply for.

Examples could include: purchase of IT and other digital equipment to support reshaped services during this period, costs already incurred as a direct result of the Covid-19 crisis to support women and children, cost of clinical supervision for staff, operating costs associated with refuges, core costs, increased expenses, sundry and related costs, additional costs associated with service delivery in these times.

Grants for BME women led organisations providing ending VAWG services

Ending VAWG work could be a service within a BME led women's organisation where other services are also delivered. Critical to providing ending VAWG services, whether in whole or in part, the organisation is BME led and provides women-only safe space to service users to access support.

Grant size: Up to £20,000

Funding period: Up to 12 months

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Aim: To provide support primarily for small and medium sized BME women led organisations, to help cover costs directly associated with providing ending VAWG services during this period.

Examples could include: therapeutic support (individual and group), individual support, welfare and advocacy support. Other types of support costs will, of course, be considered.

We have already incurred additional costs whilst working to continue our operations during the pandemic. Can we apply for funding to cover these costs?

Yes, we will consider applications to recover costs that have already been incurred as a direct result of the Covid 19 crisis, for example costs of additional IT or PPE (personal protective equipment).

How will you prioritise grants?

Applications will first undergo basic eligibility checks before being shortlisted. Applications will be shortlisted based on:

- Passing the eligibility checks.
- Demonstrating a clear financial need (we will look at your size and unrestricted reserves).
- Demonstrating that the applicant organisation is still viable and delivering services during this crisis.
- Good fit with the aims and objectives of the fund.

Applications that pass the shortlisting process will then be fully assessed and we may call you to discuss your application. Areas we may look at more closely to prioritise grants include

- Financial need
- Scope of work and type of response during the crisis
- Overall fit with the aims and objectives of the fund

What will you not fund?

The COVID 19 Emergency Fund for BME Women's Organisations will not fund:

- work that is not exclusively targeting BME women and girls as beneficiaries
- profit-making work
- party political activity
- activities promoting religious beliefs
- work outside the UK

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- applications from individuals
- overseas travel
- interest payments on loans
- academic research
- building purchase and improvements

When do any successful awards need to be spent?

All successful awards must be spent within 12 months of receiving the grant i.e. between August 2020 and August 2021

Who can I contact if I have an enquiry?

We strongly advise all applicants to read our application guidance and read answers to all of our FAQs before submitting your enquiry.

Rosa and Imkaan will also jointly host a 'How to Apply' webinar to help applicants develop their applications. This will take place on **Wednesday 10th June 2020 at 1pm – please register to attend [here](#)**.

If you have an enquiry that is not covered in our guidance materials you can send your enquiry to info@rosauk.org. Please insert 'C19 BME Grant' as your email subject and provide your organisation and contact name.

If you wish to speak to someone on the phone, please leave your contact name and number and we will arrange a call back. We aim to get back to all enquiries within 5 working days.

When can I apply and when will I hear back?

The COVID 19 Emergency Fund for BME Women's Organisations is now available to complete [here](#). The **closing date** for completed applications is **5pm on Monday 22nd June 2020** and we are unable to accept late applications.

We will do our very best to notify applicants of the decision the week commencing 29th July 2020.

How can I check whether my organisation is eligible for funding?

If you meet **all** of the following requirements, you are eligible to apply for a grant:

- Your organisation is non-profitable and run predominantly by, for and with BME women. You do not have to be a registered charity, but your activities must be charitable, legal and for the benefit of women.
- You have a written governing document, e.g. a constitution or set of rules

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- You have a governing body with at least 3 unrelated members
- You have a UK-based bank or building society account in the name of your organisation
- Your bank or building society account has at least 2 unrelated signatories
- You have been active for at least one year and can produce annual accounts for a whole year.
- You have an appropriate safeguarding policy in place (every organisation that delivers charitable activities has a duty to safeguard volunteers, staff members, participants and donors).

How can I check whether the work we are seeking funding for is eligible?

We will fund a range of costs that will enable BME women's organisations to continue and/or adapt their VAWG focused work in response to the Covid-19 crisis. Please see '**What type of work will you fund?**' above. Please see '**What will you not fund?**' above for ineligible costs that cannot be considered.

Will you fund existing work or does it need to be new?

We will only fund costs that enable BME women's organisations to continue or adapt existing, well-established work throughout the Covid-19 crisis. We will also fund costs that support women's organisations to deliver emergency response activities to meet the needs of marginalised women and girls including those that are disproportionately affected by the Covid-19 crisis.

You can apply for funding towards costs to adapt your work, specific project costs and/or core costs, meaning costs related to the day to day running of your organisation such as salaries, rent, costs relating to volunteers, costs relating to staff development and other general running costs.

If our organisation has had to furlough staff can we still apply?

Yes. We know that many women's organisations are working hard to adapt their operations at this time. For some organisations, it may have been necessary to temporarily pause strands of work and furlough some staff due to the Covid-19 restrictions. We will consider applications from organisations where this is the case, however, we expect your organisation to still be operational to some degree.

I am a current recipient of one of Rosa's other grants, can I apply?

Yes, however this is a closed fund and applicants will be invited to apply.

If we have received other Covid-19 emergency funds will we still be able to apply?

Yes. We recognise many women's organisations need urgent financial support to continue their work.

Will successful applicants receive any support as part of the award?

Yes. Both Imkaan and Rosa will provide additional non-financial support to successful applicants.

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Support from Imkaan

During the life of your grant Imkaan will provide an ongoing package of support which includes:

- Advice and support on sustainability and capacity issues with a view to long term strategic planning for organisations.
- Bespoke support tailored to the needs of the organisation regarding capacity and sustainability issues especially during the period of this crisis.
- Opportunities for grant recipients to share experiences and learning and to utilise information gathered into COVID 19 emergency planning measures.
- Opportunity for networking with other members and the sector more broadly.
- Training opportunities focusing on specialist VAWG delivered to organisations.

To find out more about Imkaan and their work across the UK in areas of policy, advocacy, research and sustainability support please visit www.imkaan.org.uk. During this crisis, Imkaan are developing specialist resources to support their membership which can be found on Imkaan's website in the members' areas.

Support from Rosa

Rosa will be here to discuss any queries regarding your grant during the funding period. We will also keep you notified of any additional support we are able to offer including our ongoing learning webinar and opportunities to connect to other women's organisations. To find out more about Rosa's response through the crisis and beyond, please follow us on Twitter and sign up to our newsletter.

How will funding decisions be made?

Each applicant is assessed on its own merit according to the fund's objectives published in the application guidance. The Grants Panel then seek to make awards that meet the overall aims of the programme.

What if my application is unsuccessful?

If your application is unsuccessful, we will write to you telling you the reasons why. You are not able to appeal our decision, but if you have a complaint about how your application has been dealt with, please contact Rosa's Executive Director, at info@rosauk.org, please title your email 'C19 BME fund'.

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