

# Macmillan Support Grants Application Form – A Guide to Completing the form

## About This Guide

This guide provides step-by-step information on how to complete a Support Grant application, including example responses to assist you.

### Section 1: Contact Details

Details of the main contact at your organisation

Main contact name:	[Please answer here]
Position of main contact in organisation:	
Main contact email address:	

### Section 2: About your Organisation

Please select the group that applies to you:	Choose an item.
Have you received a Macmillan Support Grant within the previous 12 months?	
Organisation name:	This is the name of your group, or the organisation you are involved with or work for
Organisation address:	This is the address we will use for correspondence. If you work for an Organisation, use the Organisation's address. If you're involved in a Support or Community Group, please use the address you'd like us to contact you at.
Organisation county:	
Postcode:	
E-mail:	This is the email address you'd like us to contact you on
Organisation website (If applicable):	

**Please briefly describe your organisation and its purpose**

**Why do we ask this question?** This question helps us understand who you are, what your organisation does, and how it supports people living with cancer.

**How does this help us make a decision on your application?** We want to be sure your goals are the same as ours – to support people living with cancer. Telling us about your purpose, target audience and how you support people living with cancer will help us make a decision.

**What could you include in your answer?** You might want to tell us the type of group you are, how long you've been running, why your organisation was set up, the geographical area you cover, whether you support people with certain types of cancer or all types of cancer.

**Example Answer:** "The Oncology Wellbeing Support Team offers psychological and emotional care to individuals affected by cancer. Our mission is to enhance mental health and resilience, helping people navigate the emotional challenges that come with cancer diagnosis and treatment. We also provide ongoing support and training to oncology nurses, equipping them with practical psychological tools. Our overarching goal is to ensure that everyone impacted by cancer feels heard, supported, and empowered to manage their journey."

**Example Answer:** "Mosaic Connections is a regional initiative based in the North West of England, dedicated to empowering individuals from diverse backgrounds, with a particular emphasis on those of Caribbean descent. We facilitate a range of creative, educational, and wellbeing programs designed to enhance the quality of life for people affected by cancer. Our central mission is to address the unique challenges faced by Black and minority ethnic communities in accessing cancer care. By providing a welcoming environment, we enable participants to engage in music, storytelling, health awareness sessions, and peer-led support. We collaborate closely with local NHS trusts to ensure our services are accessible and culturally appropriate."

**Section 3: Application Details****1. Please provide an overview of what you will spend the funding on**

(What do you want to do with the funding? What activities/equipment/items will you need to do that?)

**Why do we ask this question?** We want to know the details of your project. What is the project, why is it needed and how will you use the funding?

**How does this help us make a decision on your application?** We need to know that your project is something we can support. In order to do this, we must be confident that the project is feasible, cost effective and will benefit people living with cancer.

**What could you include in your answer?** Provide a clear description of the project including the activities, equipment and resources required. You could also provide a high level breakdown of the costs eg Equipment - £500, Transport £300.

**Example Answer:** "We are seeking funding to broaden our group-based support for cancer patients at Riverside Medical Centre and within the surrounding community.

This will include:

Launching the "Life Stories Collective," a group that uses creative writing and narrative therapy to explore the emotional effects of cancer. Sessions will be facilitated by psychologists, a support coordinator and a guest author from the WriteBright Foundation. Funding is requested to cover the room hire, materials and resources for a 12-session pilot.

Establishing an art therapy group in a local community centre, as suitable space is not available at the medical centre. This group will also run for 12 sessions, providing a creative outlet for participants to express themselves and build connections.

Funding will support:

- WriteBright Foundation's involvement in the Life Stories Collective
- Venue hire for both groups

Refreshments for all sessions"

**Example Answer:** "We are seeking financial support to establish a community hub for individuals impacted by cancer. This hub will host regular drop-in sessions, creative workshops, emotional wellbeing groups, and tailored activities to ensure everyone feels valued and supported. Funding will be allocated to venue costs, healthy refreshments, outreach campaigns, promotional materials, fitness classes led by certified instructors, digital resources, community celebrations, bespoke care planning, counselling, and ongoing wellbeing initiatives.

To ensure the hub is accessible and welcoming, we will invest in adaptive equipment for those with mobility challenges, translation services for non-English speakers, and technology to facilitate virtual participation for those unable to attend in person. We plan to purchase art supplies, musical instruments, and mindfulness resources to support creative and therapeutic activities. A portion of the budget will be dedicated to training volunteers and staff in cultural competency and trauma-informed care, ensuring our services are inclusive and sensitive to the needs of diverse communities.

We will also strengthen referral networks with local partners, including NHS trusts, social care providers, and community organisations, to provide holistic and coordinated support.

The funding will cover the costs of monitoring and evaluation tools to track engagement and outcomes, ensuring accountability and continuous improvement."

## 2. What difference will this funding make to people living with cancer?

(What is the need you have identified and how will this funding help meet that need?)

**Why do we ask this question?** We want to know what need you have identified and how your project will help to meet that need.

**How does this help us make a decision on your application?** This question helps us understand the impact of your project. We want to ensure you have identified a clear need for support and that your proposed project will make a meaningful difference to people living with cancer.

**What could you include in your answer?** How did you identify the need? What research have you carried out? Data or case studies that evidence the need for support. Details of the project and how it will address the need.

**Example Answer:** "This funding will enable us to offer a wider range of emotional support options. Not everyone is comfortable with individual counselling; some prefer group settings or creative approaches. The Life Stories Collective allows participants to explore their feelings in a safe, supportive environment. Having a guest author share and interpret stories helps participants reflect without pressure to disclose personal experiences, though many choose to do so. The group fosters laughter, learning, and a sense of belonging among people who understand each other's challenges.

Feedback from previous groups highlights benefits such as reduced isolation, improved coping strategies, and increased positive emotions. Participants have reported better communication, relaxation skills, and greater self-understanding through creative exercises. The art therapy group will provide a much-needed resource for people in the Meadowfield area, where such services are scarce. It aims to boost mental wellbeing and strengthen trust between patients and healthcare professionals, encouraging ongoing engagement with care."

**Example Answer:** "We have identified a clear need for culturally sensitive, accessible support for people living with cancer in our community. Many individuals face barriers such as language, transport and a lack of tailored resources, which can lead to isolation and reduced wellbeing. Through surveys and listening sessions, people living with cancer have told us they want more opportunities to connect, share experiences, and access practical health information in a supportive environment.

This funding will enable us to offer free group sessions, early detection workshops, and culturally sensitive support. We will create a safe space for sharing experiences, participating in movement and mindfulness activities and learning practical health management strategies.

Social outings and community gatherings will offer respite and foster a sense of belonging. These interventions will boost both physical and emotional wellbeing, reduce loneliness and empower individuals to take charge of their health.

By providing access to tailored information and peer-led support, we aim to improve health literacy and confidence in navigating cancer care pathways. The hub will facilitate connections between participants and local health professionals, helping to address barriers such as language, transport and cultural stigma. Our activities are designed to reduce isolation, promote self-advocacy, and encourage positive lifestyle changes that support recovery and long-term wellbeing."

**3. How many people living with cancer do you expect to directly benefit from this funding?** [Please answer here]

**4. We expect people living with cancer to have been involved in developing your idea for funding. Please describe this involvement:**

**Why do we ask this question?** We want to know what role people living with cancer has played in developing your idea.

**How does this help us make a decision on your application?** People living with cancer must be at the heart of any project we fund. We want to be sure your project is informed by real world experience and people living with cancer have had a role at each stage in the development of your project.

**What could you include in your answer?** What input did people living with cancer have (eg identifying the need, developing the project)? How did you engage people living with cancer (eg surveys, discussions, consultations)?

**Example Answer:** "The concept for the Life Stories Collective was inspired by feedback from patients, who expressed a desire to connect with others in similar situations but preferred a balance of light-hearted and serious discussion. The group was designed to include humour and creative activities alongside meaningful conversation. We gather feedback after each session and use it to refine future offerings. Interest in creative arts also led to the development of the art therapy group."

**Example Answer:** "People living with cancer have shaped the hub concept from the very beginning through a structured co-design process. We held community listening sessions and focus groups where individuals shared barriers such as transport, cultural sensitivity and fatigue. Their feedback informed key design choices – flexible scheduling, accessible venues and quiet spaces for rest. They also guided the inclusion of culturally tailored cancer awareness sessions and multilingual resources to meet diverse community needs."

**5. How will you know that this funding has made the difference you want?**

**Why do we ask this question?** We want to understand how you will evaluate the success of the project and how you will measure its impact.

**How does this help us make a decision on your application?** It is important we can measure how successful your project has been. Telling us how you will evaluate and measure your project shows you have given consideration to how the project will succeed.

**What could you include in your answer?** What are the specific aims you want to achieve? (eg improve physical fitness, reduce isolation). How will you measure the success? (eg tracking attendance). What tools will you use to track success? (eg surveys, data, questionnaires)

**Example Answer:** "All interventions are carefully evaluated. We ask questions about confidence and collect written feedback midway through the programme. This helps us assess the group's effectiveness and identify areas for improvement. Sample evaluation forms and a summary report on the Life Stories Collective's impact are available."

**Example Answer:** "We will assess the effectiveness of our programme through attendance logs, participant feedback, and personal testimonies. We will monitor engagement levels, training uptake, and improvements in knowledge and confidence. Long-term outcomes such as enhanced wellbeing and reduced stigma will also be tracked. Our ambassadors will help gather and present this data to local authorities and health commissioners, highlighting the value of our work. We will also evaluate the reach of our communications and the extent of family involvement in health-related conversations."

#### **6. If your application is for something ongoing, please describe how you will ensure sustainability for this once the Support Grant is spent?**

(Support Grant funds activities which last for a maximum of 12 months from the date of funding. If your activity will continue longer than this, please tell us how it will be funded)

**Why do we ask this question?** We want to ensure the project can continue when Macmillan's funding ends (if applicable).

**How does this help us make a decision on your application?** Knowing you have a plan in place to continue the project after Macmillan funding ends gives us confidence you can continue to support people living with cancer.

**What could your answer include?** How will you fund the project? How will you continue to use the items purchased with Macmillan's funding in future? What expertise, partnerships or resources are available to you in future?

**Example Answer:** "This is a pilot initiative for Riverside Medical Centre. As the groups become established, staff will gain experience and be able to support their continuation. We are collaborating with the centre's charity to secure ongoing funding and sponsorship. The Trust is also exploring options for additional group activity space. Partnerships with local organisations are being developed to access venues, funding, and community expertise."

**Example Answer:** "To ensure the long-term future of the Mosaic Connections programme, we will implement a multi-pronged approach to securing ongoing funding and support:

**Corporate Partnerships:**

We will approach local businesses and larger employers in the North West (such as supermarkets, banks, and regional offices) to sponsor specific activities – like health workshops or community celebrations.

**Community Fundraising Events:**

We will organise annual fundraising events, such as sponsored walks, cultural festivals, and art exhibitions, inviting community members, local artists, and businesses to participate.

These events will not only raise funds but also increase awareness and strengthen community ties.

**Volunteer-Led Initiatives:**

By training volunteers to take on leadership and organisational roles, we will reduce staffing costs and empower the community to take ownership of the programme. This approach will also make us more attractive to funders who value community-led sustainability.

**Commissioned Services:**

We will seek opportunities to deliver culturally sensitive cancer awareness and support sessions on behalf of local authorities, NHS trusts, or other charities, generating income through service-level agreements."

#### Section 4: Funding Details

This is donated money and all applications need to show clear value for money. Please give a breakdown of the costs of the items you require funding for.

**Please detail each separate cost for your requirement, item, or activity**

Equipment/activity/item	Budgeted cost
Room Hire	£1,200
Facilitator costs	£600
Stationery and Art Supplies	£400
Total Support Grant Amount applied for:	£2,200

What is the anticipated start date of the activity (if appropriate)? Click or tap to enter a date.

What is the anticipated finish date of the activity (if appropriate)? Click or tap to enter a date.