

WALCOTFOUNDATION

Independent · Inspired · In Lambeth

"We must talk about poverty because people insulated by their own comfort lose sight of it"

Dorothy Day, American journalist, activist, anarchist (1897-1980)

REVIEW **2021**

We are a grantmaking charity in Lambeth, one of London's inner-boroughs. Our earliest records date from 1618.

Our concern is with the destructive impact of poverty. Our grants seek to build the confidence, knowledge and skills most likely to strengthen whole-life prospects.

This Annual Review is our way of reporting to you on what we've been doing. More information is available from our website, or feel free to get in touch. We welcome your support and interest and are always glad to be able to talk about our work and the achievements of those we're able to support.

walcotfoundation.org.uk

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"We must talk about poverty because people insulated by their own comfort lose sight of it"

*Dorothy Day
American journalist, activist,
anarchist (1897-1980)*

UK poverty provokes mixed attitudes. "People should get jobs and provide for themselves". We might not like the need for foodbanks, but we seem often to stop short of asking why they are necessary, and why so many of our fellow citizens rely on them.

This is a common pattern in the discourse about poverty: the tension between alleged individual failings on the one hand and structural causes on the other.

Here at Walcot we have no interest in the 'deserving/undeserving' debate about those affected by poverty. We think poverty is a scandal: not for those who are

affected by it, but for a society that lives with it. And that's all of us.

Poverty harms (and sometimes destroys) lives, it costs enormous sums of public money, and it undermines the common life of society and can pass from one generation to another.

Children from poorer households are denied the opportunities open to their better-off peers, and that disadvantage can compound over their lifetime.

All our work has the aim of creating such opportunities. Opportunities to grow self-confidence, skills (soft and hard), knowledge and talent. The aim of *that* is better whole-life earning ability, so as to break cycles of disadvantage and help our grantees provide adequately for themselves and their dependants.

If you feel strongly about this, tell your MP - ask questions and make your views known. Get involved - for example, by actively supporting the Living Wage.

Opposite, we've listed sources of further information and the contact details for Lambeth's MPs.





- ▶ **End Child Poverty** endchildpoverty.org.uk
- ▶ **Child Poverty Action Group** cpag.org.uk
- ▶ **Joseph Rowntree Foundation** jrf.org.uk
- ▶ **Living Wage Foundation** livingwage.org.uk

- ▶ **MP for Vauxhall** Florence Eshalomi
florence.eshalomi.mp@parliament.uk
- ▶ **MP for Dulwich & West Norwood** Helen Hayes
helen.hayes.mp@parliament.uk
- ▶ **MP for Streatham** Bell Ribeiro-Addy
bell.ribeiroaddy.mp@parliament.uk

Modern day poverty in the UK affects 14.5 million people. The cost, above all else, is lost opportunity for many of our fellow citizens, and for some a lifetime of struggle.

HEADLINES: WHAT WE DID IN 2020/2021

- ▶ **We distributed £2,208,510 via 401 grants.** 277 directly to individuals (£324,198) and 124 to organisations, projects and schools to fund work with our target group (£1,884,312).
- ▶ **In response to the COVID-19 pandemic,** we set up the Lambeth Community Response Fund (LCRF). It had two elements: re-targeting our grants programmes and attracting and distributing an additional £330,000 from other sources. Between late April and early September 2020 we made 62 grants totalling £872,487 (46 via LCRF and 16 to schools).
- ▶ **We administered a community-led £300K grant programme piloting new approaches to improving the employment prospects of black citizens in Lambeth with long-term health conditions.** This was a partnership venture with Guy's & St Thomas' Foundation and Black Thrive.
- ▶ **The Walcot Futures programme ran for a second year,** allowing three of our grantees to shadow the work of the Foundation and gain experience of charity governance, operations and management.
- ▶ **We undertook major refurbishment of four properties** (the Foundation owns 70+ properties, used to generate income for our work). We continued with the construction of six new houses. These, too, will generate income for our charitable activity in Lambeth.
- ▶ **We improved our website,** making it easier to navigate and more accessible.

- ▶ **Our Governors met throughout the year**, mostly by video because of the pandemic. The Board met 6 times, the Investment Committee met 4 times, the Grants Committee met 13 times and the Finance & General Purposes Committee met 3 times.
- ▶ During the year we remained alert to the financial impact of the pandemic on Lambeth's poorest communities and diverted funding there as far as we could.
- ▶ **We planned BounceBack: our second-phase response to the pandemic.** It is a two year programme (2021-2023) funded by £2 million from our reserves. Beneficiaries will be Lambeth-resident low-income citizens under 30 who have (a) been displaced from their jobs because of Covid-19 and (b) those who are coming new to the jobs market and have found their opportunities narrowed by the pandemic's impact on the wider labour market. More at walcotfoundation.org.uk/bb.



A learning project we funded for Windmill Schools Cluster

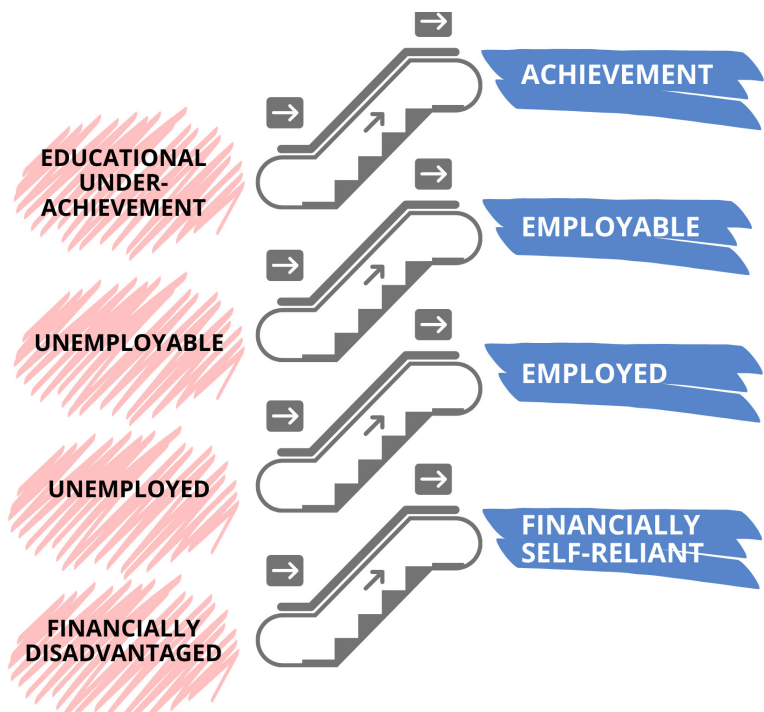
OUR MISSION & APPROACH

Our historic purpose is the relief of poverty in Lambeth, with an emphasis on education as the means.

We define 'education' broadly, as anything that helps develop whole-life potential to earn a decent income and to participate in society. We achieve our aim by making grants.

Modern day poverty in the UK affects 14.5 million people. The cost, above all else, is lost opportunity for many of our fellow citizens, and for some a lifetime of struggle. Such circumstances can be transmitted, generationally.

Our objective is to break those cycles. We offer a hand-up, not a hand-out. The aim is to tackle poverty by creating opportunity. Our grants help our grantees move from -



WE VIEW OUR GRANTEES AS PARTNERS, NOT AS 'RECIPIENTS OF CHARITY'. WITHOUT THEIR POTENTIAL WE COULD NOT ACHIEVE OUR AIMS

This is our approach

WE ACTIVELY MANAGE OUR ASSETS

- This is so we have the funds to achieve our aims for today's beneficiaries and also for tomorrow's

WE FOCUS ON WHAT IMPACT OUR GRANTS WILL HAVE

- Broadly, this is a concern with improvement and success in education, training and employment

WE ARE FAIR AND CONSISTENT

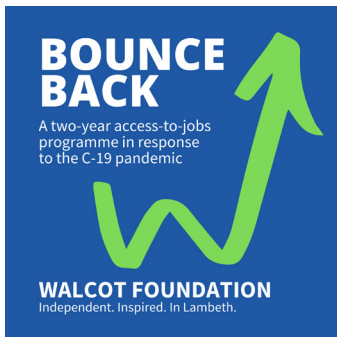
- We apply consistent eligibility criteria; we do not discriminate on any basis other than income and residence in Lambeth

WE ARE KEEN TO LEARN

- We are open to new ideas and to constructive feedback, always interested in new ways of achieving our aims

WE DO NOT STIGMATISE

- The individuals we exist to help often have reason to feel forgotten by wider society. This is why we aim to give a '*hand-up, not a hand-out*', offering them opportunities they may have been denied, building on their strengths and seeking to grow their confidence



The Walcot *BounceBack* programme is one of our responses to the impact of the pandemic on our target beneficiaries. An additional £2 million on top of our existing programmes. Read more on page 29.

GRANTS PAID DIRECTLY TO INDIVIDUALS

The grants we made directly to individuals in 2020/21 helped fund their studies across a wide range of subjects at degree, diploma and NVQ levels...

Accounting and Finance, Actuarial Science, Adult Nursing, African Studies, Agriculture, Animal Care, Applied Medical Sciences, Arabic and Linguistics, Archaeology, Art and Design, Biomedical Sciences, Business Administration, Business and Management, Business Finance, Business Information Systems, Business Logistics and Supply Chain Management, Engineering, Chemistry, Children's Nursing, Civil Engineering, Computer Graphics Technology, Computer Science, Computer Science and Mathematics, Criminology, Dental Nursing, Diagnostic Radiography, Drama, Economics and Business Finance, Education, Culture and Society, English Literature with Film Studies, Extended Medical Degree Programme, Financial Aid at Work, Food and Nutrition, French and History, French Language and Business Studies, Graphic Branding & Identity, Hairdressing and Beauty Therapy, History, History and Politics, Human Biosciences, Humanities and Social Sciences, International Economics and Trade, International Relations and Global Studies, Law with Criminology, Locksmith Training, Marketing and Sales, Maths and English, Media and Sociology, Medicine, Molecular Biology, Music, Dietetics, Pharmacology and Physiology, Pharmacy, Physics, Physical Education, Astronomy, Police Studies, Politics and Economics, Popular Music, Real Estate Management, Social Anthropology, Social Work, Speech and Hearing Therapy, Sport and Exercise Nutrition, Sports Therapy, Travel and Tourism

"The Walcot grant allowed me to complete a teaching internship as it covered my expenses. It also enabled me to gain access to all resources needed in order to study and complete the year."

African Studies, American Studies, Ancient and Modern History, Architecture, Beauty Therapy, Biochemistry, Biological Sciences, Marketing, Business and Sport Studies, Business Economics and and Transport Management, Business Management, Chemical , Combined Philosophy & Psychology, Computer Games and Mathematics, Construction Project Management, Counselling, Drama and Performance, Early Childhood Studies, Economics, Society, Electrical and Electronic Engineering, English and History, The Programme, Fashion Design Technology, Film, Fine Art, First and Spanish, Geography, Global Sustainable Development Planning, Health and Social Care, Healthcare Practice for England, and Social Science, ICT, Interior Design, International Business, and History, International Studies, Journalism, Law, Law and Marketing, Marketing Management, Mathematics and Finance, Marine Biology, Music, Music Management, Nursing, Nutrition and Physics with Astronomy, Physiotherapy, Planetary Sciences with Music, Product Design, Psychology, Public Health, Public Services, Sociology, Sociology and Criminology, Speech and Language and Tourism, Urban Planning and Property Development....

See walcotfoundation.org.uk/individuals

MORE ABOUT OUR GRANTS TO INDIVIDUALS

- ▶ Our grants directly to individuals in 2020/21 increased by 9% in volume and 12% in total value over the previous year.
- ▶ Grants for vocational courses increased to 31% of student grants compared to 24% in 2019/20. We continue to promote these via Lambeth College, local grantee organisations and Centre 70's student-advisor community sessions.
- ▶ We made 60 rehousing grants (59 in 2019/20). Of these, 6 went to young people in need of independent accommodation and 54 to those who needed alternative accommodation because of reported domestic violence.
- ▶ Grants to meet bankruptcy fees: 10 (9 in 2019/20).
- ▶ Grant recipients by gender remained the same as the previous year: 72% female and 28% male.
- ▶ Grant recipients by ethnicity (2019/2020 figure bracketed): 64% (67%) Black/Black British; 13% (14%) White/White British; 12% (11%) Mixed; 4% (5%) Asian/Asian British; 7% (4%) Other.
- ▶ Every year we contact all those who received training grants in the earlier training period to ask about their current situation and how, in their view, their Walcot grant helped them. The response rate was 81% (70% 2019/20). 91% had completed their course. Of the respondents, 76% are studying towards a higher level or continuing in the same course, and 10% are employed. 98% of respondents who completed a course considered the grant to have been 'essential' in allowing them to complete/continue in their course.

"For the past 2 years I have been receiving the Walcot Foundation grant. I personally feel that it has made such a massive positive impact on my academic focus."

What some individual grantees said

- **'T' (degree in International Relations)**

"My grant essentially saved my degree.... Long term, I want to be an MP. I will be moving to a new job allied to the UN in the autumn. I'm hoping this will lead me long term into a policy-focused career, either in International Development or domestic affairs."

- **'L' (degree in Law)**

"Since I am intent on pursuing a career in corporate law, I was able to attend open days, assessment centres and first-year law programmes opportunities [due to the Walcot grant]. This gave me the ability to understand more about the profession by engaging with law firms. The funding.... had a positive impact on my grades. I was accepted on to the Durham Emerging Leadership Programme, which equips students with the skills to secure leadership roles in societies. I was selected to become a Student Ambassador and I was a Project Access mentor, giving guidance to students from low-income backgrounds, interested in applying to Russell-Group universities."

- **'F' (degree in Criminology and Psychology)**

"I was able to buy recommended books as well as pay for access to research methods to complete my dissertation. The grant helped me manage my worries over money and transport. I took part in many volunteering programmes such as the Appropriate Adult Scheme, working with young people in referral schools. The epidemic has been most challenging. Trying to get work done with the kids at home and in the home environment has been hard. I am waiting for my results but my ultimate ambition is to be a Probation Officer."

- **'P' (Health and Social Care BTEC Level 3)**

"If it wasn't for [the] Walcot Foundation grant, I know I could not have been able to complete my course. Now, I am in my first year in University of Greenwich studying BSc. Public Health. I appreciate you all. Keep doing what you doing; because it impacts me and my son greatly. And it will do the same for others. I believe that wholeheartedly."

GRANTS TO SCHOOLS, PROJECTS & ORGANISATIONS

We make grants to schools, projects and organisations as a means of reaching the individuals who are at the heart of our charitable purpose.

As part of our response to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact, we focused grant approvals on the following priorities

- To directly support academic achievement, particularly projects that will help close the attainment gap between pupil premium pupils and their peers.
- To address student (re)engagement with school, particularly transition years and for students in danger of exclusion.
- To respond to the mental health needs of children, young people and their parents/carers.
- To help young people (under 30) into employment.
- To improve access by our target group (low-income Lambeth households) to advice services, particularly in the fields of debt, housing and employment.

This slight change in focus resulted in 70% of grants (94% in 19/20) being spent on removing barriers in education, maximising learning, building employability and advice. The remaining 30% was directed to emergency support, work with older people and other programmes, including immediate relief of need and capacity building. Of grants to schools, 71% went to primary schools (67% in 2019/20) and 29% to secondary schools (27% in 2019/20) - all targeted on work with pupils from low-income Lambeth households.

"Thank you for your support throughout the three years of our project like ours needs - supportive and flexible, also a critical friend to the needs of organisations like us and of the wider context of our community"



*ur programme. You have been just the type of funder a small
friend who understands and demonstrates an understanding of
our work."*

EXAMPLES OF GRANTS TO ORGANISATIONS & SCHOOLS

Here are examples of grants made during 2020/21

See more at walcotfoundation.org.uk/previous-grants

- **BRIXTON ADVICE CENTRE (BAC)**
Volunteer Advice Centre I £74,247 over three years
Funding for the roll-out of a new volunteer advice service focusing on benefits and debt and offering face-to-face help and online services via the new BAC web portal.
- **NORWOOD SCHOOL**
Raising the Game I £19,740 over one year
A project to enable pupils in danger of exclusion to make a smoother transition from primary to secondary school. It targets BME pupils (particularly Black Caribbean pupils who typically face disproportionately high exclusion rates).
- **LILIAN BAYLIS TECHNOLOGY SCHOOL**
Tutoring Project I £21,000 over one year
Provision to selected Pupil Premium Year 11 students of mentoring including English, Maths, Science, Languages, History and Geography.
- **HOME-START LAMBETH**
COVID-19 Remote Support for Parents I £26,587 over one year
To enable HomeStart to move some services online and to train volunteers to help vulnerable parents access them. They include a 12-week course for survivors of domestic violence, baby classes and craft classes for parents with young children. Part of the award was used to send out baby sensory boxes, craft/art materials, shopping vouchers and credit top-ups for families worst hit by the pandemic.
- **HIGH TREES**
Connecting Tulse Hill I £24,447 over one year
A well-being 'check in' service to 300 vulnerable residents in Lambeth's Tulse Hill Ward, all of whom fell below the threshold for local authority support (that is, not in the shielded group but vulnerable because of income, health and social isolation factors).



- **BIGKID FOUNDATION**
Remote Youth Work | £24,680 over one year
Funding for BIGKID's virtual youth work programme, replacing face-to-face work that was no longer possible during lock-down. Content included fitness, mentoring, games tournaments, workshops (money, relationships, mental health) and a book club.
- **CHIPS**
COVID-19 Family Support | £25,000 over one year
A project to support low-income young people and families who were facing additional hardship because of the COVID crisis. It had three elements: (1) an on-line youth programme, (2) family support and (3) improved digital access (laptops and data dongles for those urgently needing them for educational purposes).
- **HENRY FAWCETT PRIMARY SCHOOL**
Pastoral and Family Support | £11,000 over one year
A project helping low-income vulnerable children and families engage with school and learning. A Family Support Worker supported families with high needs and a Learning Mentor worked with pupils affected by the pandemic.

See walcotfoundation.org.uk/previous-grants

GRANTMAKING 2020-2021

- These pages, examples by Ward
- Over the page, grants £10k plus

GRANTMAKING TEN YEAR ROLLING TOTAL
TO 31 MARCH 2021

£19.8 million

TOTAL GRANTS IN 2020/2021

£2.21 million

GRANT ASSESSMENTS IN YEAR

473

GRANTS BY RECIPIENT

Individuals:

277 grants (£324,198)

Organisations, schools, projects:

124 grants (£1,884,312)

Heathbrook Primary School
Wild Things

King's Ave Primary School
Philosophy for Children
(P4C)

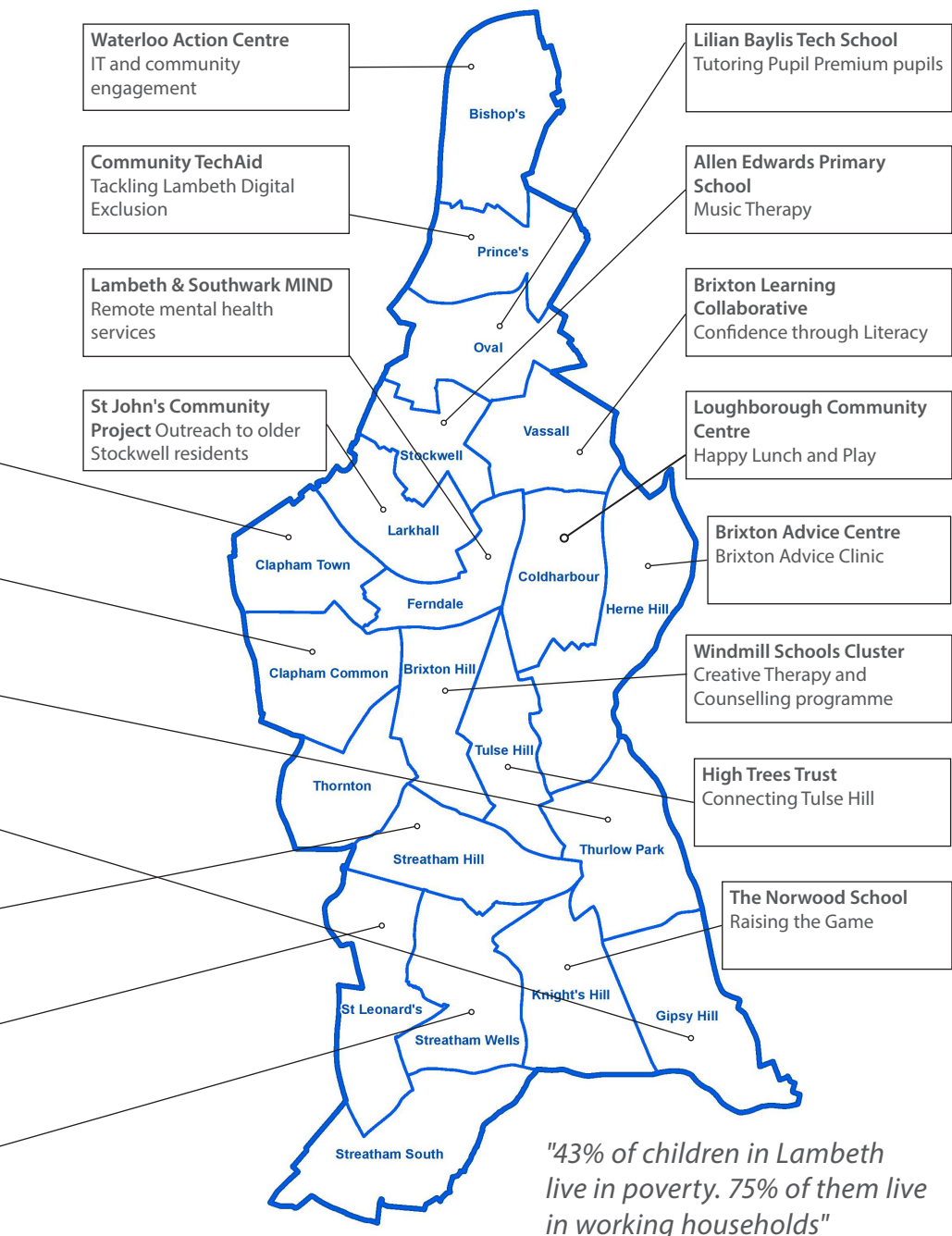
Rathbone
Crisis Support

L'Arche
Support for those with
Learning Difficulties

Citizens Advice Merton &
Lambeth
Advice for Lambeth Project

Love Streatham
Rehousing 1:1 support for
night shelter guests

Streatham Youth and
Community Trust
CoNexUs



2020/21 GRANTS £10,000+

Age UK Lambeth

COVID19 - Support and Community Connection | £25,000

Alford House

COVID19 - Preventing exclusions | £14,092

Archbishop Tenison's School

Reading Leaders | £12,800

Aspire 2 Inspire Dyslexia CIC

Black Thrive - Create your future with Dyslexia Lambeth | £18,425

Baytree Centre

COVID19 - Digital learning for women and girls | £31,056

PEACH Project - mentoring project for girls (aged 7-16) | £25,000

Ben Hollioake Learning Centre

After School Education Scheme | £25,000

BIGKID Foundation

COVID19 - Remote Youth Work | £24,681

Bright Centres

COVID19 - Remote Small Group Tutoring | £25,000

Brixton Advice Centre

Brixton Advice Clinic | £24,749

COVID19 - Advising Remotely and Online Legal Clinic | £17,276

Business Launchpad

COVID19 - Lambeth Side Hustle | £12,866

Carers Hub Lambeth

Lambeth Young Carers Schools Project | £23,498

CEF Lyncx (CEFL)

Community After School Study Support (CASS) | £25,000

Centre 70 Advice Centre

Advice Worker (2020-22) | £51,712

COVID19-Remote Working | £23,000

CHIPS

COVID19 - Family Support | £25,000

Voices for Change | £19,295

Citizens Advice Merton And Lambeth

Advice for Lambeth | £25,000

Commons Law CIC

COVID19 - Crisis Navigation Team | £11,980

Community Learning and Empowerment Network CIC

Local Roots | £50,000

Construction Youth Trust

Early Intervention Employer-led Engagement Programme | £25,000

Creative Sparkworks

COVID19 - Digi-Sparks Ignites Your Online Career | £23,979

CS Coaching & Development Ltd

Black Thrive - Coaching For Success | £10,000

Disability Advice Service Lambeth

COVID19 - Volunteer Coordinator | £12,290

Ebony Horse Club

Ebony Horse Club Youth Project | £15,000

COVID19 - Remote Horse Club | £14,000

EFA London

COVID19 - Digital skills for ESOL learners | £13,846

Evelyn Grace Academy

COVID19 - Therapeutic support for Emotional Well-being | £25,000

Evolve Housing + Support

COVID19 - Improving Digital Access for Residents | £13,780

Exceed Reading Stars Ltd

ABC Achieving Beyond Capabilities | £10,000

Football Beyond Borders

Expansion of the FBB Schools' Programme to Lambeth. | £15,630

Gipsy Hill Federation

Secondary school transition programme | £24,500

Henry Fawcett Primary School

COVID19 - Pastoral and family support | £11,000

High Trees Community Development Trust

Step In-Step Up | £25,000

COVID19 - Connecting Tulse Hill | £24,447

Home-Start Lambeth

COVID19 - Remote support for parents | £26,587

COVID19 - Improving perinatal mental health | £23,478

I Am In Me CIC

I AM Employability | £10,000

Indoamerican Refugee and Migrant Organisation

Step Up Plus | £24,962

Institute of Imagination

Lambeth Sparks | £24,954

IntoUniversity

IntoUniversity Lambeth | £25,000

Katakata

Black Thrive - Black social entrepreneurs in Lambeth | £43,194

Kinetika Bloco

Stepping Up: Empowering the Next Generation | £23,881

Lambeth and Southwark Mind

COVID19 - Remote Mental Health Services | £15,948

Lambeth Digital Inclusion Fund

Contribution to Lambeth Digital Inclusion Fund Crowdfunder | £10,000

Lambeth Tech Aid

COVID19 - Tackling Lambeth Digital Exclusion | £10,000

Lark Hall Primary School and Children's Centre

Music Therapy | £13,900

Lifelong Family Links Life

Skills and Employability project | £23,520

Lilian Baylis Technology School

COVID19 - After school small group tutoring | £21,000

London Bubble Theatre

Speech Bubbles | £11,000

Loughborough Community Centre

COVID19 - Happy Lunch and Play | £10,000

Mary Dolly Foundation

Reach for Recovery | £24,840

Mosaic Clubhouse

Young Adult Project 2019-22 | £25,000

No. 1 Performing Arts (NOPA)

COVID19 - Additional therapy for PP pupils | £27,172

NOPA-C | £25,000

Norwood School

COVID19 - Raising the Game | £19,740

Oasis Children's Venture

Rise&Sh9 Project Extension | £24,686

Oval Learning Cluster

COVID19 - Community Connectors | £27,300

COVID19 - Tutoring support | £12,000

Paws and Pause

Black Thrive - Employment training programme | £10,000

Photofusion

Community and Engagement | £20,000

Power2

Walcot Student Advance Programme - Power2 Advance | £50,000

Rathbone

COVID19 - Crisis Support | £10,000

Raw Material Music and Media Education

Raw Sounds Training & Progression | £24,460

Saint Gabriel's College

COVID19 - Counselling for disadvantaged pupils | £16,000

South London Cares

COVID19 - Phone-a-friend | £12,500

Southwark Law Centre

COVID19 - Increased Housing/Welfare Advice Capacity | £18,338

Spires Centre

Covid19 - Tenancy Support | £16,100

St John's Community Development Project

COVID19 - Outreach to older Stockwell residents | £10,000

St Matthews Project

Kick Start | **£24,598**

Streatham Youth and Community Trust

COVID19 - CoNexUs | **£10,000**

Talent-ed Education

COVID19 - Tutoring | **£20,900**

Thames Reach Charity

Step Up | **£25,000**

Toucan Employment

Lambeth NEET Project | **£24,861**

Transgenerational Change Limited

The Family Group Programme at Richard Atkins Primary School | **£10,000**

Triangle Adventure Playground Association

COVID19 - Remote Youth Services | **£10,000**

Tutors United

Small Group Tuition for Pupils and Parents | **£25,000**

Ubele Initiative

Black Thrive - Back on track | **£34,725**

Van Gogh Primary School

Nurture Groups | **£21,000**

Vauxhall City Farm

After School Tutoring at Vauxhall City Farm | **£10,000**

Walnut Tree Walk Primary School

Early Intervention Therapy for Vulnerable Children | **£10,000**

Waterloo Action Centre

COVID19 - IT and Community Engagement | **£11,006**

We Rise

Access All Areas | **£25,000**

Windmill Cluster of Schools

COVID19 - Creative Therapy & Counselling programme | **£32,320**

COVID19 - Outdoor Learning | **£16,316**

COVID19 - Future Men Transition Programme | **£11,285**

Yourstory

SAFE: Strengthening Families through Character Education | **£19,442**

OUR 'ADDED-VALUE GRANTMAKING OUR SERVICES DO NOT STOP AT GRANTS

We offer more than just grants, and we do it in order to give our grants greater impact.

We offer grantees free access to confidential high quality additional help of three different kinds -

Walcot debt and budgeting advice services

Many of our individual applicants find themselves in debt, and uncertain how to deal with it. We provide speedy access to professional debt counselling through our grant to Lambeth's long-established advice service, Centre70.

Walcot organisational capacity and resilience service

We developed this service because of our interest in organisations working with our target beneficiaries. We look for good organisational structures and cultures, competent management and governance, and the ability to effectively deliver the services they seek our funding for. We sometimes identify areas of operation we believe could be strengthened. Our capacity-building service allows such organisations to access confidential mentoring and advice, at no cost. This is available via our grant to Community Learning and Empowerment Network CIC (CLEN).

Walcot employment readiness and job finding services

Walcot grantees undertaking training or further or higher education sometimes find it difficult to access quality careers advice and job-finding support. We provide this as part of our added-value programme. In 2020/2021 this was made available through our grant to Power2. The service offers careers advice, individual training and employment action plans, CV preparation, and coaching in interview skills.

INTERVIEW: HUGH VALENTINE

We asked Hugh Valentine, Director of the Walcot Foundation, about its work and mission

What is the Walcot Foundation, and what distinguishes it from other charities?

The foundation belongs to that sub-group of charities that have a 'permanent endowment', and so is very fortunate. This means it has assets that cannot be spent, used only to generate income. Walcot's permanent endowment is well over £100 million, in property and other investments. These generate our income and fund our work.

Walcot is fortunate in another way: for its financial size it has a fairly small 'area of benefit' – Lambeth. This allows us to have a greater impact than if we covered all of London or the UK. Our charitable purpose is 'the relief of poverty'. We do this by making grants that have the aim of improving the whole-life earning prospects of our target group (low-income Lambeth citizens, mainly under 30).

How did Walcot come about?

In his Will of 1667 Edmund Walcot left land, the rents from which were to be used for the relief of the local poor. Our records in fact go back further – to Sir Noel Caron's Almshouses, and 1618.

Is poverty still an issue?

Yes. It remains a serious reality in the UK. 2019/20 data indicates that 14.5 million UK citizens were living in poverty (the figure includes 4.3 million children, 8.1 million working-age adults and 2.1 million pensioners). In Lambeth, 43% of children live in poverty (after housing costs) and 30% of the general population. It is very likely that the pandemic has caused these figures to rise.

The Westminster government's Welfare Reform and Work Act 2016 removed the requirement in the Child Poverty Act 2010 to publish a UK-wide child poverty strategy. This was a mistake. It leaves the Government without a clear focus on tackling child poverty. The impact of material poverty on children can have serious, life-long consequences. These affect not only the person, but society more widely.

I am an admirer of Dorothy Day, an American journalist, activist, Christian, and anarchist of sorts (1897-1980) who insisted that “We must talk about poverty because people insulated by their own comfort lose sight of it”. It’s true: many of us are insulated from this situation, and seem ready to tolerate it. It’s terrible indifference.

Does the Foundation’s work have an impact?

If you aim for whole-life change (as we do) then measuring impact is tricky. This is what we want our grantmaking to do for grantees: create opportunities they otherwise don’t get, and in doing so to give a hand up and never a hand-out. So we are willing to consider funding almost anything which holds the possibility of whole-life employability in decently paid work.

The formula for helping people out of cycles of low-income poverty has, traditionally, been to get them into work. That is still our approach, but several years ago the number of technically ‘poor’ people in work exceeded those not in work. All because of low wages, the gig economy and zero-hours contracts. It is not wise for society to tolerate these developments. Minimum wage legislation must reflect *living* wage levels.

Does Walcot campaign?

No, not as a primary purpose. Good think tanks and campaigning groups exist. It is not our role. We make information available, we ‘bear witness’ to what our work reveals about the human cost of modern-day poverty, and we make submissions from time-to-time to the government (a recent example was to the House of Commons Work and Pensions Committee inquiry into measuring child poverty).

Does the Foundation have a USP?

Well, luckily, we don’t have to ‘sell’ ourselves. And what I am about to say is not unique to Walcot, though we have majored on it. The world of ‘charity’ is not always benign and cuddly. Sometimes there can be elements of condescension and unhelpful (and often unconscious) attitudes. Grant makers – if they are alert to these possibilities – recognize the power imbalance at work (they decide, applicants can only ask). We try to address this. We view grantees as partners, not as ‘recipients of charity’. Without them and their potential, we cannot achieve our aim. We are as clear as we can be about what we might fund and the information we need to decide this. We don’t forget that the individuals we exist to help often

have reason to feel forgotten by wider society. This is why we aim to give a 'hand-up', not a 'hand-out', offering them opportunities they may have been denied, building on their strengths and seeking to grow their confidence.

Who are the people who make Walcot work?

Those with ultimate responsibility are our charity trustees — here they are called Governors. Their job, under charity law, is to ensure the Foundation stays focused on its purpose, is properly run, and that the assets are managed in such a way as to be available not just to today's grantees but also those of tomorrow – forever, in perpetuity. We have a staff team dealing with grants, property, and finance.

You are leaving Walcot in 2022

Yes, in April. I don't like the 'R' word and prefer to call it post-work liberation. It has been a truly brilliant role to have. I've loved it. I have been fortunate to have worked with a range of impressively competent and committed Governors and colleagues, and to see Walcot's grantmaking do exactly what we hope for: to break cycles of deprivation by giving to those who are denied them by their circumstances some of the opportunities others take for granted.

What do you think Edmund Walcot would make of his charity today?

He'd be shocked that poverty has endured and is tolerated in modern-day Britain. I think he would be astonished by the breadth of work being done in his name, 354 years later.

OTHER WALCOT PROGRAMMES

Our Bounceback Programme

The aim of the Walcot BounceBack programme is to help low-income Lambeth residents under 30 find paid work. It is the second phase of our response to the pandemic and runs for two years (2021-2023). We've assigned £2 million to it, over and above our usual grants programmes.

Beneficiaries will be Lambeth-resident low-income citizens under 30 who have (a) been displaced from their jobs because of the Covid-19 and (b) those who are coming new to the jobs market and have found their opportunities narrowed by the pandemic's impact on the wider labour market. More at walcotfoundation.org.uk/bb

Walcot Student Advance Programme

The Walcot *Student Advance Programme* gives a greater level of support to our grantees studying at university. It is provided via our grant to *Power2*.

Many of our students from low-income settings have little or no access to the range of informal and aspirational support young people from better off homes have available to them. The aim is simple: to help our Walcot Bursary grantees remain in further/higher education, to get the most out of it, and to make the best possible transition from study to employment.

The programme offers career coaching, mentoring and help in accessing the full range of support and opportunities within their educational institution and from industry-specific networks. One aspect of the programme is the development of a Walcot Foundation Alumni Network. We're proud of what so many of our student grantees have achieved and we know that many wish to support others going through the process.

Walcot Futures Programme

The students we support in further and higher education often lack what is called 'social capital': the connections and contacts that enable others, from better off backgrounds, find work experience and gain introductions, all of which can strengthen CVs and open up future prospects. Could we, in some small way, replicate those benefits?

The Walcot Futures Programme offers 2-3 Walcot-funded undergraduates (or

recent graduates) a chance to get an inside look at how a progressive grant-making foundation works.

The one-year programme offers: an induction and briefing on charities, foundations and charity governance; attendance at meetings of the Board of Governors; participation in meetings of the Investment and Grants committees; mentoring sessions with a named Governor; assessment and observation visits to funded projects, and additional meetings with key foundation staff.

In developing the Walcot Futures Programme we also had in mind the future need of the UK's charity sector for competent people to serve as trustees and governors, and for these roles to draw upon a younger and more diverse pool of talent.

"Doing nothing for others is the undoing of ourselves"

Horace Mann, 19th century educational reformer



Photo James Hopkirk. Banjo was working as a fitness instructor and football coach when Covid first struck. Overnight, gyms closed and he lost his source of income. He explains how an introduction from the St Matthew's project led him to a new job and to becoming an integral part of Lambeth's pandemic relief effort, getting food to the borough's most vulnerable residents. Read his and other Lambeth Lockdown stories at walcotfoundation.org.uk/lambeth-stories

PEOPLE, THANKS & GIVING

STAFF

Techia Braveboy (*Grants Administrator*), Daniel Chapman (*Grants Manager*), Daniel Hogan (*Grants Officer*), Leigh Ogden (*Grants Officer*), Djilali Teffah (*Finance Manager*), David Paterson, (*Property & Estate Manager*), Hugh Valentine (*Director and Clerk to the Governors*)

GOVERNORS 2021/2021

Michelle Agdomar (*Grants Ctte. Vice-Chair of the Board from 14 July 2020*); Richard Allnutt (*Investment Ctte; F&GP Ctte.*); Thomas Anderson (*Investment & F&GP Cttes.*); Donatus Anyanwu (*Lambeth Council nominee*); Michelle Bogle (*F&GP Ctte. and Lead Governor on Risk*); Alice Chapple (*F&GP Ctte, Lead Governor Audit; Grants Ctte.*); Rezina Chowdhury (*Lambeth Council nominee, Grants Ctte*); Teresa Clay (*Chair of Governors; Investment, F&GP (Chair) & Grants Cttes.*); Jeremy Clayton (*resigned July 2021*); Helen George (*Grants Ctte (Chair)*); Frances Greenburgh (*Grants Ctte.*); Andrien Meyers (*Investment Ctte.*); Glencora Senior (*Investment Ctte (Chair); F&GP Ctte.*); Jean Taylor (*served until July 2020 as Lambeth Council nominee*); Simon Taylor (*Investment Ctte*); Robert Vandersluis (*served until July 2020*).

HONORARY ADVISERS

Jim Henderson served as Honorary Adviser to the Grants Committee until May 2021. His knowledge of secondary

education was greatly appreciated. Tom Anderson served as Honorary Adviser to the F&GP Committee until his appointment as a governor.

THANKS

Very many people help the Foundation in its work: professional and honorary advisers, contractors, donors, well-wishers. We thank you all.

GIVING

Gifts, legacies and donations are always welcomed. We make no deduction to cover administrative costs: 100% of any gift is channelled into our grantmaking and directly benefits individual people (more than 100% if Gift Aided, where applicable).

Individual donors

This can be done online - please visit walcotfoundation.org.uk/donate. If you prefer, call us on 020 7735 1925.

VOLUNTEERS

We value volunteer support. We are particularly interested in potential volunteers with expertise in project evaluation; social policy fields of poverty and welfare-to-work; what works in developing literacy and numeracy; and photography. We don't expect an open-ended commitment. Please get in touch.

We're always glad to hear from those wishing to know more about our work - please get in touch.

"Walcot are exceptional.
I suggest to other funders
to be more like them."

"They are an important
funder and they make
a big difference to the
community."

THE WALCOT FOUNDATION

tackling poverty by creating opportunity

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Grants Administrator Techia Braveboy

Grants Officers Daniel Hogan and Leigh Ogden

Property and Estate Manager David Paterson

Annual Review 2020/2021