

# Young Carers Festival- Top funding tips for your project!



A small guide full of handy tips to raise funds  
to attend the Young Carers Festival.

Updated March 2019

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## Top funding tips for your project!

The Young Carers Festival is a fantastic opportunity for young carers from across the U.K to come together, have fun, meet new friends, get their voices heard and have some much needed time out from their everyday lives. We find that one of the main reasons projects can't attend is due to the cost and whilst we would



love to be able to not charge, as you can appreciate the festival costs us a large amount of money to pull together and run.

However, we know there are several projects who have found positive funding streams, practical ways to fundraise locally, as well as ways to cut costs along the way. We have put together a few hints and tips for you and your project to try to enable your young carers to attend Young Carers Festivals without having those financial barriers.

### Where can we apply for funding to help us?

Several projects have already applied for funding and been successful. Here are some links to funding bodies and organisations you could apply to or to give you ideas.

- We all know that Greggs provide yummy cakes but did you know they also have a community fund. They provide specialised grants in the North East but also have a local community projects fund for anyone across the country to apply to. They provide grants of up to £2,000.



<https://www.greggsfoundation.org.uk/grants/local-community-projects-fund>

- The True Colours Trust is passionate about making a difference to the lives of children with special needs and their families and supporting people with life-limiting and/or life-threatening illnesses. They offer small grants throughout the year including young carer projects.



<http://www.truecolourstrust.org.uk/small-grants-uk/>

## Are there any other funding pots we can apply to?

Many projects have accessed funding bodies local to them, so why not try:

- Your local area budget at your local authority.
- Local rotary clubs
- Local bikers groups (example in Torbay is Bikers make a difference)
- A cause that supports a particular condition that young carers are caring for  
(example Help Harry <http://hhho.org.uk> have helped to fund places at YCF for those who care for someone with cancer )
- Appeal to local businesses to sponsor a young carer to attend.
- Local building societies
- Supermarkets have foundations or community elements to their business, take a look on Tesco, Asda, co-op, Sainsburys and Morrisons websites to see what funding streams are available.



The co-operative



## What can we do to fundraise the money?

When the young people become involved in the budgeting and cost of events, they gain some ownership in both planning and attending the event. So, here are a few ideas on how you can raise funds to take young people to YCF.

- Why not create a fundraising committee made up of young carers who can come up with ideas for your group to raise funds? They can help plan the events, contact relevant people to get involved, and help manage the overall budget alongside project worker.
- Work with local schools to raise awareness and ask them to help you raise money through events like non-school uniform days.
- Contact your local supermarket and ask to pack people's bags collecting money for the Young Carers Festival.





- Gather together all your old toys, gadgets, clothes etc and go to a local car boot sale and collate the money you all raise, or why not run your own project car boot sale charging cars/sellers to attend and sell, and all buyers pay a small fee in aid of YCF.



- Hold a fundraising event at your project, and ask young people to plan and organise it. Events such as black tie dinners, auction evenings, band nights etc have worked well in other areas in the past. Asking bands to play for free, shops and companies to donate prizes to auction and local catering companies to sponsor dinners helps to cut event costs so you have a greater chance of raising the funds you need.



- Why not look into setting up a 'Just giving' page? Crowdfunding is a way to raise money to make good things happen, whether that's making a difference to yourself, a friend, a pet, a family member, a club or community. At the end of the campaign, they will send the funds raised to a nominated bank account of your choice. This could be a good way to pay for something specific in relation to your group attending the Young Carers Festival. <https://www.justgiving.com>
- Why not use Young Carers Festival short clips and videos to show people what they are investing their money in.

2018 YCF

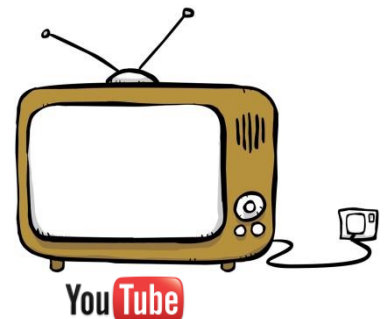
<https://youtu.be/Rzh2KqILDm>

2017 YCF

<https://youtu.be/ueZvAFjVEVI>

2016 YCF

<https://youtu.be/u5krNJDMpYM>



Don't forget to check out our Influencing Change toolkit for some more great ideas on raising awareness locally!

<https://www.childrensociety.org.uk/rights-and-social-change>

## How can we cut costs overall?

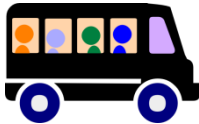
- YMCA offer festival places at a reduced rate if you book early. Take advantage of the early bird offer and book your place to save money.



- Young Carers projects travel from all over the country to come to the YCF, and the likelihood is that there will be projects near you who are traveling down to the south coast! Why not find out which projects are coming and arrange to share travel to split the costs?



- Look in to using community transport to cut travel costs. Just google where you can locate community transport in your area.



- Try to take a mixture of full-time paid staff as well as volunteers for your staffing ratio.

YMCA Fairthorne Group Registered Charity No. 1090981 Registered Office: YMCA Fairthorne Manor, Curdrige, Southampton, SO30 2GH  
The Children's Society Registered Charity No. 221124 Registered Office: The Children's Society, Edward Rudolph House, Margery Street, London, WC1X 0JL