

# The Paristamen CIO

*Standing beside charities with small grants to make a big difference*

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LARGE GRANT PROGRAMME 2016

## Christian Perspectives on Death and Dying

### INVITATION TO BID FOR A ONE-OFF £20,000 GRANT

Expressions of interest needed by: 4 April 2016

**Deadline for bids: 9 May 2016**

The Paristamen CIO is a small grant-making charity based in York. Our objects are relatively broad – they cover (a) the advancement of the Christian faith and (b) any other charitable purpose which is not inconsistent with (a). We make some grants for explicitly Christian projects, but also many broader grants to charities working in fields such as poverty and disadvantage, health, advice work, human rights. Until recently we were only making very small grants of a few hundred pounds each, but following receipt of a legacy we are launching some new grant-making programmes. In particular, we are planning each year to offer a one-off “major grant” of £20,000 in a very specific field of work.

We are now inviting bids for our first major grant: **we hope to make a single grant of £20,000 to be awarded by mid-2016 for a project in the specific field of *Christian Perspectives on Death and Dying*.**

#### The focus of the grant

The trustees are looking to fund an imaginative project that will make a real difference to Christians in the UK (or at least in England) around the consideration of issues related to death and dying – in particular, the legal, ethical and theological issues which arise.

We envisage a project that will engage Christians by providing resources and/or events that will encourage serious engagement with some or all of following issues:

- (a) Ethical, medical and spiritual questions around end of life care in particular around relief of suffering which leads to shortening of life, and the consent issues in such situations.
- (b) Ethical and legal questions concerning assisted dying/assisted suicide and the relationship to Christian theology – in particular, to focus on current legislative changes being considered in Parliament (at Westminster and, if applicable, at Holyrood) and to engage Christians on *both sides* of that debate.
- (c) Theological reflection on the *ars moriendi* (the art of dying) – a concept once popular in Christian teaching, but now largely hidden.
- (d) Practical issues in end of life preparation – including supporting Christians in understanding the use of living wills/advance directives, lasting powers of attorney and similar documentation and in advising on their use in pastoral work.
- (e) Reflection on the role of funeral rites and other end of life rituals, the various possibilities for such rites from a Christian perspective, and the role of advance planning for funerals.

Not all of these issues have to be addressed but (a) and (b) are essential. However, the above list is indicative – we are open to suggestions of other issues that could usefully be incorporated.

We envisage that the project will be most effective if it seeks to engage with those who have a considerable level of Christian commitment – for example active church members, clergy and lay

leaders. We are open to various possible methods of working – for example organisation of well-publicised conferences or seminars, development of printed and on-line resources, supporting local churches or councils of churches to find speakers on these issues, etc.

The project should seek to reach the widest possible Christian audience with these issues – for example, by using the grant to generate widely circulated resources or by means of a pyramid approach where the project trains people to be ambassadors on these issues, who then organise local events to engage many others.

We recognise that these are all huge issues, and we are also seeking an enormous level of reach – it would be easy to dream up initiatives which require vastly more than £20,000 to implement. But the successful applicant is likely to be a charity – or several charities in partnership – which;

- already have significant involvement in these fields – so relevant expertise is already available towards developing resources *and*
- which already has access to suitable networks or publications which enable them to reach significant numbers of local churches or individual Christians without huge expense.

Ideally we would like the project to be ecumenical, but a project which is focused in one Christian denomination would be acceptable so long as those from other traditions are free to attend the events or make use of materials.

We do not anticipate the project would take a specific ethical stance on the issues raised where Christians hold a range of views – rather the aim would be to highlight the issues to promote informed Christian reflection.

The aims of the project must be clearly charitable – but it could be based within a charity whose overall objects are primarily educational or religious or health-related. On the specific ethical issues raised, the project should not itself directly campaign for any change in the law or oppose any such change, but it may well encourage Christians and Christian groups to engage with Parliamentarians on these issues, in the light of appropriate reflection.

### Timescales

Although our grant will be restricted to this project, we do *not* intend to impose a specific time-frame, and applicants are welcome to suggest what they feel would be most appropriate, although we would anticipate the grant being used over a one to three year period. Whilst there could be a case for an intense one-year project, there could also be a case for seeking to develop work that will continue over a number of years.

However, we suggest it is important to capitalise on the opportunity for Christian engagement with recent legal developments, so we would hope that some reasonably high-profile launch of the project would be possible not later than autumn 2016.

### Organisation and Financing of the Project

This could be an addition to existing work by a suitable charity, or a completely new project. It may well involve more than one partner to bring together the expertise needed, but there must be one clear lead charity which will be accountable as the grant recipient. (If the recipients see this as a long term project distinct from their current work, there may even be a case for establishing a new charity – if so we would be willing to delay our grant for a few months while the new charity is formed.)

Whilst there is no formal requirement for matched funding we would hope that the successful applicants would support the project enthusiastically and allocate appropriate resources to support it by way of expertise, existing contacts and networks, staff time, as applicable. We also hope for implementation of the project in a way which unlocks further resources to allow the widest possible impact. For example, events and publications do not necessarily have to be provided free – a charge could be made to

generate further income – but any charges must be at a reasonable level which do not deter those the project is seeking to engage.

Bids should show the anticipated income and expenditure of the project over whatever period is felt appropriate – see below for further details.

### Eligibility

1. Any UK charity with relevant expertise in these areas and which has the energy and vision to deliver this project is welcome to apply. The lead applicant does *not* necessarily have to be a Christian organisation, though if that is the case a partnership with a suitable Christian organisation or network is likely to be needed. Whilst the organisation must be charitable it does not have to be a registered charity – we will be pleased to consider exempt charities such as universities or excepted charities such as some churches. However grants will not be made to individuals or non-charitable organisations.
2. Because the project is intended to have a national focus (UK-wide or at least England-wide) charities whose work is solely in one locality would not be eligible, unless the application is made with a clear partner that could achieve national research.
3. This is a one-off programme: we do not anticipate making further grants in this field, so applications must show that a £20,000 grant would make a real difference on these issues without any further funding from Paristamen. However, if our grant can help you to develop a project with long term sustainability by unlocking additional funds from other sources that will be viewed positively.

### Application process and timescales

We are keen to keep the application process as simple as possible – we do not wish to waste your time preparing a complex bid which is unlikely to succeed.

- (a) If you feel your charity may be in a position to bid for this grant, we would encourage you to make contact as soon as possible (and certainly not later than 4 April 2016) to discuss an application informally before applying. Please call (01904 788885) or email [admin@paristamen.org.uk](mailto:admin@paristamen.org.uk) – but please bear in mind this is a relatively small charity run by the trustees on a voluntary basis: we do not employ staff, so please allow a few days for a response.
- (b) If it is clear from our initial discussions that there is a reasonable fit between your area of expertise and our proposed grant offer, you are welcome to send an outline proposal by email for feedback.
- (c) Please send the formal application *by letter or email* enclosing a copy of your charity's latest *Annual Report and Accounts* to reach us not later than 9 May 2016. (You may also wish to enclose the Annual Report and Accounts for any major partners.) Please write on your charity's normal letterhead and head the letter: *Application for Major Grant 2016*. (If emailing, please provide a covering letter and other documents as PDFs.)

The application should as a minimum give the following information.

1. Proposed title for the project.
2. Name and charitable status of the organisation applying.
3. Name and status of any partner organisations.
4. Names and contact details for key individuals to be involved – including an overall co-ordinator who would be the prime contact with ourselves

5. Details of relevant expertise for the organisations(s) and/or key individuals, including previous work on these issues, access to relevant networks etc.
  6. A project plan in some form explaining how the project will work – the specific resources to be created, events to be organised, and how the project will seek to engage a wide range of active Christians in these issues.
  7. Proposed timescales and budget – if you anticipate the project running for a number of years, the budget should be broken into annual columns. (Note: If a grant is awarded it will simply be restricted to the project as a whole – we will not impose any line by line restriction to the budget since changes may well be needed as the project proceeds. But we need an indication of how you *expect* the resources to be used. If part of our grant will be transferred to partner organisations, please make this clear. Please include in the budget any additional income expected – e.g. fees for events or publications; grants or donations from other sources, any subsidy to this project from the general funds of your charity. On the expenditure side, if you will need to charge any general overhead costs to this grant, please make that clear.)
  8. Your proposals for reporting back to us. We would like to be kept informed of how the project is developing, but there is no need to establish elaborate monitoring arrangements. (Note: We would expect to receive copies of all materials produced or circulated by the project, invitations to events, etc. We will also wish to receive your charity's Annual Report and Accounts for each year the project is running. We would expect this project to appear clearly as a restricted fund in those accounts unless your charity is so large that this project is not material to show as a separate fund – in the latter case we will need some kind of annual financial feedback on the project.
- (d) Applications must be submitted to reach us not later than 9 May 2016 to:
- Mrs Sharon Morgan (Admin Trustee)  
 The Paristamen CIO  
 36 Acomb Wood Drive  
 YORK YO24 2XN  
 Email: [admin@paristamen.org.uk](mailto:admin@paristamen.org.uk)
- (e) All applications will be initially reviewed by one trustee to check they meet the criteria for the scheme and if so, they will then be seen by all three trustees before a decision is made. We will let you know whether your application is going forward to consideration at the trustees meeting.
- (f) Decisions on which application to support will be taken at our trustees meeting in late May 2016. If there are no further conditions or issues to resolve, we would expect to send a cheque for our grant not later than 15 June 2016. (We will also let you know if your application is unsuccessful.)

#### Assessment Criteria

Given the provision for initial liaison before a formal bid we hope to avoid triggering large numbers of bids which are unlikely to succeed. However, at the final stage if we receive a number of separate applications, each trustee will separately score each application and the total scores will be considered.

To some extent grant-making is a subjective process and it always depends in part on how the trustees "feel" about the strength of applications, but the following criteria are likely to be considered:

- The charity's track record/experience in the field concerned
- The access to appropriate networks
- The vision for how the project will actually work
- The clarity of the application

- The extent to which the project is likely to have some long term sustainability beyond the proposed period of spending our initial grant
- The case you make with regard to the likely impact of a £20,000 grant
- Whether the applicant charity appears to be well run and effectively governed (as indicated, for example, by the Annual Report and Accounts and whether existing financial resources are being well used).

Although we hope to make a single grant of £20,000 under this programme we reserve the right not to award a grant or to make a smaller grant if we do not feel the applications are strong enough.

Some more general information about The Paristamen CIO and further copies of this document are available on our website [www.paristamen.org.uk](http://www.paristamen.org.uk)

**The Paristamen CIO – Registered charity 1155665**

Agreed by trustees – August 2015

Amended version - Feb 2016

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