

Crisis Grants news

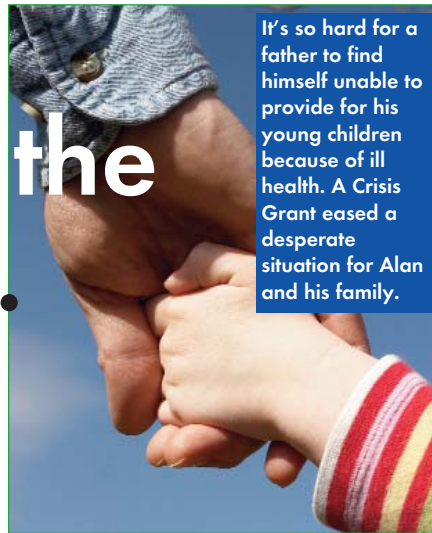
Spring 2009

from the Surrey Care Trust

There but for the grace...

Life can deal devastating blows. Alan can tell you all about that. A father of young children, he was advised to stop working for a time because of illness.

A miscalculation of his benefits entitlement left him temporarily with less than £20 a week to support his family. While the benefits muddle was being dealt with we were able to step in with an immediate grant to buy groceries.



It's so hard for a father to find himself unable to provide for his young children because of ill health. A Crisis Grant eased a desperate situation for Alan and his family.

That's what Crisis Grants are all about... help, right here, right now, for ordinary people when things are extraordinarily difficult.

Demand for Crisis Grants has never been greater and we are at risk this year of running out of money and being unable to respond to many of the requests we receive for help.

Like many organisations our income is being squeezed by the economic uncertainty and we desperately need more funds for these grants.

A number of community-minded local companies have made a generous commitment to Crisis Grants over the years because they can see that their donation has an immediate impact on people's lives here in our local communities, in every part of Surrey.

We are now appealing for more companies to join their ranks, provide a bedrock of funds for Crisis Grants and help touch the lives of hundreds of people every year.

Crisis appeal

If your company would consider supporting Crisis Grants, please contact our Chief Executive Elaine Tisdall on 01483 412758

**YOUR COMPANY CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE, RIGHT HERE,
RIGHT NOW, IN OUR LOCAL COMMUNITIES**

01483 426990

www.surreycaretrust.org.uk

Registered Charity Number: 285543

We are extremely grateful to the following companies for supporting the Surrey Care Trust Crisis Grants.

Aspreva

BELRON
INTERNATIONAL

digitalsteps

Merrill Lynch

DOLPHIN HEAD
GROUP HOLDINGS PLC

prelude
properties

simple
INVESTMENTS

STIHL

unum

VT
Careers Management
Surrey

Surrey
CareTrust
our CRISIS GRANTS
help people in great need

Why modest Crisis Grants mean so much



Georgina Waters is the new Crisis Grants Manager. Georgina also manages our STEPS Ahead programme, helping unemployed young people to improve the skills they need to find a job or move into further education.

Contact her on 01483 412760, georgina.waters@surreycaretrust.org.uk

Having worked at the Surrey Care Trust for 10 years and helped out occasionally with Crisis Grants, I am still stunned by the level of need experienced by some of the applicants.

I take pride in the fact that the Trust can respond so quickly, whereas other forms of financial help can take weeks or months instead of days and if you need help, you often need it NOW!

I know, from the feedback we receive, that clients aren't just helped by the purchase of a washing machine, for example, but also benefit from the wider impact on their general mental health, confidence and self esteem – it's the fact that someone has 'heard' and responded, that someone cares at a time when they can feel very isolated, that means so much.

Applications for Crisis Grants always come through professionals such as social workers, teachers, health visitors, probation officers and careers advisers. They turn to the Surrey Care Trust when there is no statutory funding for the needs of people they are helping. Whatever the request, we always aim to respond swiftly, turning round 80% of applications within 48 hours.

STIHL GB

based in Camberley

Company in the spotlight

Supporters of the Surrey Care Trust, Camberley-based STIHL GB is a leading name in the outdoor power tools industry.

Operating in over 160 countries worldwide, the STIHL Group develops, manufactures and markets an extensive range of products under its STIHL and VIKING brands. STIHL was founded in 1926 by Andreas Stihl, who invented the World's first handheld chainsaw, and over 80 years later STIHL chainsaws are the world's number one.

STIHL and VIKING brand products today range from hedge trimmers and lawn mowers for landscapers and gardeners, to the world's best selling cut-off saws for the construction sector, and the group is renowned for its advanced technology and high quality design.

STIHL places great emphasis on the quality of its people; its German headquarters, R&D and manufacturing plants operate an active apprentice programme and the group is committed to the continual training and education of its workforce, which exceeds 10,000 worldwide.

The STIHL ethos encourages motivated, qualified people and enables their continual personal development and progression. No wonder it is proud to support the work of the Surrey Care Trust.



Crisis Grants help so many...

- People on low incomes who have nothing left to replace essential household goods.
- People taking a first step to independent living after illness who have few possessions and no savings to furnish a new home.
- People coping with a disability or suffering from illness and the financial strain that goes with it.
- People leaving prison who may need to retrain or buy equipment or new tools to help in finding work and rebuilding their lives.
- Young people who have been in care or have limited family resources and need help with training costs or buying smart clothes for a first interview.
- Parents unable to afford school uniform, shoes or basic equipment.

Dolphin Head Group Holdings Plc

based in Camberley

Company in the spotlight

Dolphin Head Group Holdings Plc are specialists in commercial lettings and development and residential development and funding. Established for over forty years, the company has remained true to its original values of combining a high degree of local knowledge with providing expert support for all its tenants and purchasers.

Since its establishment the company has also provided funding, support and management expertise to businesses at the cutting edge of technology. Currently the group is involved in the rapidly evolving markets of telecommunications and mobile device software management solutions.

Recently, through Prince Michael of Kent and the Parliamentary Genesis Initiative, the Company has also been providing business support to a number of projects in the emerging economy of Azerbaijan.

Dolphin Head is delighted to be able to support the Surrey Care Trust's Crisis Grants. In an increasingly busy world it is all too easy to overlook people in our local community who need help and assistance. Crisis Grants provide a vital role in providing this aid when it is needed most.



Dolphin Head is delighted to be able to support the Surrey Care Trust's Crisis Grants. In an increasingly busy world it is all too easy to overlook people in our local community who need help and assistance. Crisis Grants provide a vital role in providing this aid when it is needed most.

Thank you so much for the money you recently gave to myself and my family for my grandson's car seat and a freezer. These items will help us immensely. The old car seat was second hand and had got so tatty with all the padding on the straps perishing. He is big for his age and was far too squashed in the old one. The new one is much more suitable for his size and he really likes going in the car again. The old one was safe, I wouldn't want you to think I would ever take him out in an unsafe seat. The freezer is going to be so useful and I already have plans to freeze a lot of the veg I have grown in the garden, as well as increasing our food storage. Thank you all again so much.



P.S If I ever win the lottery I will be sure not to forget your generosity (ever hopeful).

Sally gave up her job to become a foster mother to her grandson. As a relative she receives a limited foster carer allowance, so her budget is extremely stretched. The freezer will enable her to save money by buying in bulk.

Touching so many lives

Thank you very much for the £150 Crisis Grant. I've enclosed my receipts. The grant has helped me with financial difficulties through a very difficult time, enabling me to buy food and other basic necessities, as well as medication.

Kerry was referred to us by her community psychiatric nurse when she had to give up work because of a relapse in her condition

This Crisis Grant has enabled the children to spend time at nursery, giving their mum some time at home to recuperate from a recent accident knowing that the children are safe.

The added benefit for the children is that they have really enjoyed their experience at nursery, have learnt new skills and socialised with other children.

The grant has made a huge difference to the family during what has been a really difficult period for them all. Their mum is making progress but recovery is quite slow as her injuries were very serious and debilitating.

I know she is extremely grateful to have had help with her children and acknowledges that it has made a difference.

Please pass on our grateful thanks to all at the Surrey Care Trust for such a quick and generous response to help this family.

A health visitor contacted us to request a grant for this mother following a serious accident

To the people who helped me to get my son's uniform, without your help I would have been unable to fund this.

Liz has many stresses to cope with. A grant towards her son's new secondary school uniform removed one worry

All names of grant recipients in this newsletter have been changed

THE SURREY CARE TRUST works across Surrey helping people who face disadvantage. We have been giving Crisis Grants since we were founded in 1982 and help hundreds of people every year in this way.

Today we are also working for the longer term through innovative training and education to transform the life chances of people who live on the economic edge because of their lack of skills. Among those we work with are young people who would otherwise face a difficult future because of their low educational achievements.

**Surrey
Care Trust**
changing lives

Crisis Grants News is produced by the Surrey Care Trust, 1 Old Elstead Road, Milford, Godalming, Surrey, GU8 5EE,

01483 426990

www.surreycaretrust.org.uk

Charity number 285543

Registered with limited liability in Cardiff, number 1658859



I just wanted to write and say a very heartfelt THANK YOU. My daughter has recently been able to start a wonderful training course due to your generosity in helping fund the extensive kit required. Without your help she would most certainly not have been able to enrol on this course. She is delighted and is working hard with a big smile on her face. Thank you so much.

This mother is disabled and the family live on a low income

I am Lorna and I have had your help with money for a washing machine and a carpet for my baby son's room. I am so grateful and it helped me and my boyfriend so, so much, so thank you.

Lorna is only 16 and is receiving no support from her family



Registered with limited liability in Cardiff, number 1658859