



## **Funding Available for Those Affected by Marfan Syndrome**

*Please be advised that all information below has been taken from named charity websites and may change – We aim to update this on an annual basis – this has been last updated in July 2024.*

### **1. Independence at Home click this link for eligibility. [Help For You - Independence at Home](#)**

Provides grants to people of all ages who have a physical or learning disability or long-term illness and who are in financial need. They may be able to help towards the cost to improve your independence, comfort, safety and quality of life at home. This financial help enables them to obtain mobility and disability equipment, home adaptations and other essential items to make an immediate, practical and positive effect on daily life at home. Independence at Home's grants vary between £300 and £600 and depend on the item of equipment purchased or building work carried out. The average grant is £370. **Independence at Home welcomes grant applications from Referrers – health or social care professionals, or advisors or support workers from charities or other community organisations supporting an adult or child who needs our help. Referrers must be:**

- **capable of assessing an individual's needs.**
- **willing to complete our online application form on their behalf.**
- **able to liaise with our grant assessors by email and/or phone if necessary.**
- **Each application must be submitted on behalf of the individual by a Referrer.**

We do not accept applications directly from individual members of the public. Referrers must be willing to submit the application online and then follow through on its outcome in We welcome applications from the following Referrers: Staff employed by statutory health, social care or advice services – e.g. a Doctor, Specialist Nurse, Occupational Therapist, Speech and Language Therapist, Physiotherapist, or Social Worker. Professional workers from charities which provide health, social care, welfare or advice service; Citizens Advice workers; Professional workers from Tenancy Support, Care and Repair organisations and Housing Associations. We would be pleased to hear from you if you need help from us, would like to make a grant application or a donation, or discuss any issues raised on this website. Our office is open from Monday to Thursday, 9am to 5pm. Address: Independence at Home 4th Floor, Congress House 14 Lyon Road Harrow HA1 2EN Email: [iah@independenceathome.org.uk](mailto:iah@independenceathome.org.uk) Telephone: 020 8427 7929

## 2. League of the Helping Hand [Help and advice – LHH](#)

Helps those who are living on a very low income, receiving the appropriate welfare benefits and who have exhausted all other funding sources including statutory funding, occupational, local and specialist charities. They help those with physical and diagnosed mental health conditions, learning disabilities and people caring for an adult or child with a disability. Assistance is offered to all ages – help for children should be made through a parent/legal guardian (as the recipient). The League issues grants of up to £250. These are generally awarded for or towards essential household items and specialist equipment not available from statutory agencies. They also provide regular and ongoing financial assistance. They **ONLY** accept applications via third party sponsors or from a professional agency (Social services, health service, housing association, tenancy support agency, carers' Centre, Citizens Advice bureau or another charity) **The help we offer** financial assistance may be provided under the following three categories:

**One-off grants** LHH issues grants of up to £300. These are generally awarded for or towards essential household items and specialist equipment not available from statutory agencies. We recognise that white goods (cooker, washing machine, fridge), household furniture, flooring and other items can be very hard to purchase or replace when you live on or below the poverty line. **Extended Assistance** We also provide ongoing financial assistance. LHH currently supports around 70 ill and less able people with regular financial help. Extended Assistance beneficiaries will also receive quarterly newsletters, birthday and Christmas cards as well as a personal visit from the Secretary once a year where possible. We may (at our discretion depending on funding availability) contribute towards special occasions such as birthdays or seasonal events and breaks away from home. We believe this personal touch is important and integral to our charity. **Carers' breaks** Depending on available funds, one-off payments are made for carer's breaks. We understand the role of a carer is both onerous and tiring. Carers contribute hugely to the general well-being of the people for whom they are caring but rarely practice self-care, often due to lack of funds. We would like to rectify this and allow the carer an opportunity to take a break.

Find out where else [you can get help](#) or [apply for a grant](#). Application form filling and submission – **we will only accept application forms that have been filled in and submitted by a third-party sponsor from a recognised agency.** The sponsor must be prepared to vouch for the application and take responsibility for the distribution of funds, if awarded, in the manner agreed by LHH. E-mail: [secretary@lhh.org.uk](mailto:secretary@lhh.org.uk) Telephone: 01444 236 099 – Please leave a message outside of office hours. Post: The Secretary LHH, PO Box 342, Burgess Hill, RH15 5AQ

## 3. The Hospital Saturday Fund <https://hospitalsaturdayfund.org/wp-content/uploads/Individuals-Grant-Guidelines-CURRENT-Dec-2023.pdf>

The Hospital Saturday Fund is a registered charity whose aims are to provide assistance for registered health charities, hospices, medical organisations and individuals with a medical condition or disability.

We can provide grants for medical projects, care, research or support of medical training within the United Kingdom, Channel Islands, Isle of Man, the Republic of Ireland and Malta.

**For individuals**, we can provide help with the purchase of specialised equipment or forms of treatment.

Not sure if you are eligible for one of our grants? Have a look around the website to get an idea of the range of people and organisations we help. If eligible here is the link to the application form. [HSF - Individuals - HSF - Formstack](#)

The Hospital Saturday Fund please call 020 7202 1365 (charity enquiries only) or email [charity@hsf.eu.com](mailto:charity@hsf.eu.com) UK – London The Hospital Saturday Fund 24 Upper Ground London SE1 9PD  
Tel: 020 7202 1365 [charity@hsf.eu.com](mailto:charity@hsf.eu.com)

#### 4. **The Florence Nightingale Aid in Sickness Trust** [Florence Nightingale Aid in Sickness Trust \(fnaist.org.uk\)](#)

The Florence Nightingale Aid in Sickness Trust provides grants towards medical aids and equipment for named individuals of all ages who are sick, disabled or suffering from a long-term illness. The application should be made on behalf of the client by someone with a medical background or one of the following: Social workers Occupational therapists District Nurses Health Centre staff other charities Citizens Advice Bureau. Guidelines are here: [Guidance-for-FNAIST-application-JULY-2023.doc.pdf](#)

Contact: Mrs. Lisa Hungerford, Grant Administrator / Charity Coordinator, Florence Nightingale Aid in Sickness Trust, Community House, Room F35, South Street, Bromley BR1 1RH. 020 7998 8817 [lisa.hungerford@fnaist.org.uk](mailto:lisa.hungerford@fnaist.org.uk)

#### 5. **Margaret's Fund** [Margarets Fund](#)

Grants available to women who are in financial need and who are in ill health or suffering from a health-related problem. Grants are made for: aids for disability, extra comforts, convalescent holidays (holidays to recover from illness), clothing, extra nourishment, extra heating. Grants must be made through a caring professional. All applications for grants from Margaret's Fund must be made through a **SUPPORTING PROFESSIONAL** such as registered charity workers, social care professionals, doctors and hospitals, social workers and other advice or key workers. Trustees give grants to women who are in ill health and financial need. Trustees regret they are unable to assist with the relief of debt, nor with hire purchase liabilities, repairs and alterations, transport, general/ongoing funding or educational grants. If an application is successful and a grant is made, the supporting professional's organisation will need to be able to accept payment from Margaret's Fund and reissue to the client. Grants will not be made directly to the applicant. Trustees ask you to provide evidence/proof of purchase of how the grant money has been used if requested; tell us promptly if for any reason the grant is no longer required; return to us any funds which have not been used for the purpose set out in this application. **Got a question? Get in touch...We're here to assist you should you have any questions through this link** [Contact Us - Margarets Fund](#)

## 6. **Equipment for Independent Living.**

[equipmentforindependentliving@btinternet.com](mailto:equipmentforindependentliving@btinternet.com)

Helps people, aged 16 and over and living in the UK, who have a long-term illness or disability. The charity makes one-off grants to help meet the cost of specialist equipment. Grants to disabled people towards purchase of equipment (e.g., powered wheelchairs) which will help them to lead independent lives. Apply in writing via email above. Address Park Cottage Donhead St. Andrew Shaftesbury SP7 9DZ Phone:01747828789

## 7. **Mobility Trust** [Apply for Help | Mobility Trust](#)

The trust provides powered wheelchairs or scooters for people who are unable to obtain such equipment through statutory sources or afford it themselves. If someone is unable to walk at all and requires a powered wheelchair, they should apply to their local NHS Wheelchair Service before making an application to the trust. No cash grants are given.

Before we know whether or not we might be in a position to help you, there are a number of questions we need to ask to ensure that you are eligible for assistance. We would therefore be grateful if you could fill in the form on their website (Link above). Please note that this form is designed to provide us with the information that will tell us whether or not we think we will be able to help you. It is not an Application Form. If we think that we will be able to help, then we will send you our formal Application Form for completion. Please also note that the type of scooter we provide will need a car hoist or car ramps when transporting it in a car. Mobility Trust does not provide folding/portable scooters. You can contact us in a number of different ways: You can telephone us on 0118 9842588. You can email us on [mobility@mobilitytrust.org.uk](mailto:mobility@mobilitytrust.org.uk) You can write to us at: Mobility Trust PO Box 7044 Tadley Hampshire RG24 4PL

## 8. **RNIB (Royal National Institute of Blind People)** [Grants from RNIB | RNIB](#)

At RNIB, the UK's leading charity helping people with sight loss, we offer small grants to people who are registered blind or partially sighted and on means-tested benefits. The items we offer grants for include certain computer software, voice recorders, portable video magnifiers, talking kitchen and labelling equipment, a talking mobile phone, accessible smartphone, accessible tablet, DAISY players, USB readers and e-readers. Who can receive a grant from RNIB. You, or the person you are applying on behalf of must: be a resident in the UK. Be registered with your local authority as blind ("severely sight impaired") or partially sighted ("sight impaired") unless you are applying on behalf of a child who has not yet had their sight loss certified or registered receive a means-tested benefit and one that is not a Tax Credit. Means-tested benefits include Income Support; Pension Credit; Housing Benefit; Council Tax support; Income-related Employment and Support Allowance; Income-related Job Seeker's Allowance; and Universal Credit. Have been refused funding from your local authority for the items you need. Have savings of less than £6,000 have not had a grant from us in the last three years. If you are applying on behalf of your child, a relative or someone you provide care or support for, please give their details on our application form and then make a separate note of your contact details.

We welcome grant applications at any time of the year. We have several ways you can apply, online, by post or by email. Before you apply you may want to read our application guidance information. The notes give more details about our grants scheme and what information you need to send with your form for us to be able to make a decision on your application. [Download Technology Grants Application form Guidance notes \(Word\)](#) . Your application must be supported by a professional who knows your personal circumstances. This could be a social worker, occupational therapist, health care visitor, or a worker from another charity that is helping you. It cannot be your GP, a friend or a family member. If you are applying for computer accessibility software (also called "assistive technology"), a mobile phone or a portable video magnifier, we will ask your supporting officer to confirm that you have tried it out and it is the best item to meet your needs. You might be able to try out the items you are applying for such as portable video magnifiers, accessible mobile phones and tablets or accessibility software at your local society for people with sight loss. You can use the [Sightline Directory](#) to find somewhere near you by searching for "assistive technology" and entering your postcode.

If you are not eligible to apply for a grant from us or would like a grant for an item we cannot help towards, please see our information on [grants from other organisations](#). You can also download a copy of our other sources of grant's factsheet, which contains details of other organisations which may be able to help you.

To speak to one of our Technology for Life coordinators about our grants eligibility or technology in general, please call [0303 123 9999](tel:03031239999), email [tfl@rnib.org.uk](mailto:tfl@rnib.org.uk) or complete our support request form.

## **9. Frederick Andrew Trust [Frequently Asked Questions for Women Following Illness Or Injury | Frederick Andrew Trust](#)**

The Frederick Andrew Trust provides grants to support women following a recent illness or injury. We have a range of grants available to support women after a recent illness and injury. These include Help around the house, such as cleaning, washing and ironing, cooking or just generally keeping things tidy around your home. Support from professional health care providers including physiotherapy sessions, occupational therapy, speech therapy, dieticians, prosthetists, hearing or sight loss professionals for example. A short break away in a hotel, bed and breakfast accommodation or a convalescent home. We can also support you with grants for HCPC registered therapy to get you back on track to feeling healthier and happier. Please note that to be eligible for a grant, you MUST currently be, or have previously been, in paid employment. By completing the initial application form [Apply Now | Frederick Andrew Trust](#) we can see whether you are eligible to apply for a grant. We are only able to consider applications for recuperation following a recent illness or injury, the criteria are after minor surgery, help may be available for up to 2 weeks after major surgery, help may be available for up to 6 weeks ongoing conditions, there has been a recent acute episode in your condition. We cannot consider applications for financial hardship.

If you would like to speak to someone, please telephone 07534 184684 or you can write to PO Box 1291, Lincoln, LN5 5RA.

## 10. Gardner's Trust for the Blind (no website)

They provide financial assistance for computer equipment, education/training costs, and household items to registered blind or partially sighted individuals in the UK. Feel free to reach out to them with any further questions or inquiries! To apply for a grant from the Gardner's Trust for the Blind, follow these steps:

**Eligibility Check:** Make sure you meet the eligibility criteria. The Trust provides financial assistance to registered blind and partially sighted individuals in the UK.

**Application Form:** Contact the Trust via phone or email to request an application form. You can find their address at Suite 2, The Old Farmhouse, Stansted Courtyard, Parsonage Road, Hertfordshire, CM22 6PU.

**Complete the Form:** Fill out the application form with accurate information. Be sure to include details about your specific needs, such as education, training, household items, or pensions.

**Submit Documentation:** Attach any necessary supporting documents, such as proof of blindness or sight impairment, relevant bills, or invoices.

**Submit Application:** Send the completed form and supporting documents to the Trust. They will review your application and consider your request for financial assistance. Please note that all grant requests must be submitted on the Gardner's Trust Application form, by the sponsor/professional third party who will be supporting the application. A sponsor may be one of the following: Social Worker, Medical Practitioner, Local Council, Blind Society Office, Rehabilitation Officer, Citizens Advice Officer, Teacher. Tel: 0207 253 3757, Email: [gardners@smithfieldaccountants.co.uk](mailto:gardners@smithfieldaccountants.co.uk)

## 11. Individual Technology Solutions for Vision Impaired People [Individual Technology Solutions for Vision Impaired People | ITSVIP](#)

The charity was originally set up to provide telephone landlines for Blind and Vision Impaired people who could not otherwise afford them. After consultation with our stakeholders, we have expanded our offering to include mobile phones and tablet computers. These have specialist access software installed or use in-built accessibility. Our charity uses a referral system and by collaborating with partners in the sector, both Local and National Blind Societies along with professionals such as Eye Clinic Liaison Officers, Rehabilitation Officers for the Vision Impaired and Social Workers, the charity provides grants in the form of communication equipment and services. As part of the grant for equipment we also include device specific product training. Eligibility Criteria Policy and Procedure can be found here [Eligibility-and-Criteria-Policy.pdf \(itsvip.org\)](#) We would love to hear from you. Please use any of the contact details below or our quick contact form. [Contact | ITSVIP](#) **Call Us** 07547 406 563 **Address** 170 Manchester Road Accrington Lancashire BB5 2PD Email: [director@tftb.org.uk](mailto:director@tftb.org.uk)

## 12. Wavelength [What We Do – WaveLength](#)

WaveLength gives media technology to lonely people living in poverty. WaveLength gives radios, televisions, and tablet computers, free of charge, to people who are lonely and can't afford to buy the technology themselves. For people who are lonely, a simple radio, television,

or tablet can feel like a lifeline. We help people who have become lonely through lots of different circumstances. Some of these include: the death of a loved one, illness or injury, disability or impairment, homelessness, domestic abuse, becoming a refugee, moving away from friends and family. Even when there is no-one else around, they can be a friendly voice in an empty room and a window to the world. Every day we hear stories about how our technology is helping people overcome loneliness. We even have research to prove it! So, if you know someone who needs our help, apply today. We want to hear from you.

A professional such as a social worker, nurse or local shop manager who has long-term contact with the beneficiary should make the application. Guidance notes can be found here: <https://wavelength.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/WaveLength-Application-Guidance-Notes-2019-12.pdf> and application form here: <https://wavelength.org.uk/individual-impact-measurement-application-form/> Address: 47-51 Norfolk Street Cambridge CB1 2LDTel: 01223 776 770 Email: [info@wavelength.org.uk](mailto:info@wavelength.org.uk)

### **13. The Andrew and Catherine Carter Trust – email them direct in first instance**

The charity's main objective is to provide relief in cases of financial need of disabled persons in such ways as the trustees shall from time to time determine and in particular by means of assistance in or towards the provision of special equipment to promote their effective employment or self-employment and or adaption of their housing or transport to meet their needs. Items must not be available from statutory sources such as social services or the NHS. Funding will not be given retrospectively. Address: 7 Northfields, Bulkington. Devizes. SN10 1SE. Phone: 07395047165 Email: [admin@cartertrust.org.uk](mailto:admin@cartertrust.org.uk)

### **14. Barchester's Charitable Foundation [Homepage | Barchester Charitable Foundation \(bhcfoundation.org.uk\)](#)**

We help older people and other adults with a disability or mental health conditions across England, Scotland, Wales and Jersey. We give grants to help people connect or re-connect with others in their local community, and our focus is to combat loneliness and enable people to be active and engaged. We help individuals with funding to purchase/adapt mobility equipment for outdoor use. Our grants range from £100 up to a maximum of £1,000. The application form must be completed by a third party who knows the individual in a professional or community-based capacity. Eligibility checker: To be able to apply for a grant, the individual must meet our eligibility criteria: The individual is 65+ The individual is 18+ with a physical or learning disability. The individual is 18+ with mental health problems- FAQs can be found here [FAQs | Barchester Charitable Foundation \(bhcfoundation.org.uk\)](#) link to application is here [Apply for an individual | Barchester Charitable Foundation \(bhcfoundation.org.uk\)](#)

Phone: 0800 328 3328 Email: [info@bhcfoundation.org.uk](mailto:info@bhcfoundation.org.uk) Address: Grants Management Team Barchester's Charitable Foundation 3rd Floor, The Aspect 12 Finsbury Square London EC2A 1AS

## 15. **Glasspool Charity Trust** [Glasspool Charity Trust](#)

We are a UK-wide grant funder, established in 1939 with a permanent endowment from Richard Louveteau Glasspool, a Hertfordshire businessman and philanthropist. He experienced financial hardship as a young man, but when his income became more than enough to meet his personal needs, he started to provide financial support to individuals. He died in 1949, aged 65, but his legacy lives on in the Glasspool Charity Trust.

A National charity providing small one-off grants to individuals in need on a low income. The Trust provides funding for household items such as white goods, furniture, clothing, baby needs, educational computer needs, specialist disability equipment, driving lessons/tests and travel to hospital.

**The Flexible Frontline Fund**, our new and only grants programme, went live on 1 April 2024 and will operate for a minimum of three years. The overarching purpose of the new programme is to increase financial wellbeing and reduce financial distress for individuals living in financial hardship. Individuals will receive quality whole-person support from frontline organisations and a grant for goods or services.

**Grants support for individuals** Grants from the Flexible Frontline Fund are exclusively reserved for the service users of our selected partner organisations. Please be aware that these organisations can only provide grant support for individuals who meet their eligibility criteria and if the organisation has the capacity to take on new service users. These organisations retain complete discretion in deciding whether to accept an individual for support.

Contact Us: If you can't find the information you require after reviewing our website, please email [grants@glasspool.org.uk](mailto:grants@glasspool.org.uk)

## 16. **Heinz, Anna and Carol Kroch Foundation contact in the first instance via email below**

We are making grants to assist people suffering severe poverty and financial hardship who also have ongoing medical problems. We also assist people who have recently suffered domestic violence and the homeless.

PO Box 327 Hampton TW12 9DD Phone: 02089790609 Email: [hakf50@hotmail.com](mailto:hakf50@hotmail.com)

## 17. **The National Benevolence Charity** [The National Benevolent Charity](#) ([natben.org.uk](http://natben.org.uk))

Provides help to those in financial need. It makes grants to help with essential needs purchase and arrange delivery of household items and supply vouchers for goods and services. It may also be able to supplement an income and help during difficult periods through ill health, disability, age or some other reason. Our individual grants are aimed at those experiencing poverty or hardship. We know that you may be applying to us as a last resort, we will therefore ensure that your application is processed efficiently and that your experience is as positive as possible. However, our funds are limited, so to maximise your chances of success please check



that you are eligible and follow our guidance carefully. Further information is available in our FAQs. <https://www.natben.org.uk/faqs> Our grant awards range from £150.00 to £750.00 however our average grant award last year was £360.00. Please apply for a realistic amount as your application will be rejected. If you are applying for yourself, you must meet the minimum criteria listed below and supply a statement or letter of support from a professional person (referrer) who knows you and your circumstances well. This could be a CAB Advisor, Housing Officer, Charity Worker, Money Advisor, GP or other professional person. If you are referring to someone else, you must be a professional person (referrer) and know the applicant and their circumstances well. Please note - households can only receive one grant award in any 12-month period to a maximum of three in any five-year period. Our grant awards are normally made in the form of e-vouchers, bank transfer or direct to a supplier.

For enquiries about our Individual Grants please contact us via email [office@natben.org.uk](mailto:office@natben.org.uk) or via post at TNBC PO BOX 108 Tetbury GL80BS

**There are numerous search engines where you can research grants. We have listed 2 below with links where you can add your personal details and type of financial support you need access to:**

## Turn2Us

### Support for Individuals

If you are an individual or support worker looking for a grant, we recommend that you begin your grant search by going to the Turn2Us grants portal, where a wide range of potential funders can be found. It is a valuable resource that can help individuals find over 1400 charitable funds for extra financial support. Please be aware that many funders will only accept grant applications from a support organisation. This could be a [citizens advice office](#), a local charity, your local council or housing association.

**Please press the button below to be taken to the Turn2Us grants search tool.**

Get Started

## LIGHTNING REACH

If you're struggling financially and need help with money, you may be eligible to apply for support such as grants, benefits, help with bills and local schemes.

The secure Lightning Reach portal allows you to find and apply for support from multiple providers, quickly and easily. The service is completely free to use.

**Please click on the button below to be taken to the Lightning Reach Portal:**

Lightning Reach Portal