

**Women's Health Programme**

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**Introduction**

The Burdett Trust for Nursing is an independent charitable trust (Registered Charity 1089849) that makes grants to support the nursing contribution to healthcare through nurse-led<sup>1</sup> projects. The Trust aims to use its funds to empower nurses and through this, make significant improvements to the patient care environment. Over the years, the Trust has invited grant applications themed around a wide range of health issues. This latest programme will focus on women's health.

The Burdett Trust for Nursing is committed to supporting our international nursing community. However, on this occasion The Trust is inviting applications for initiatives based in the UK.

**Women's health**

The Burdett Trust believes that nurses and midwives are well-placed to provide effective accessible and evidence-based women's health care. All four UK countries have looked strategically at women's health in recent years and the Trust is keen that proposals are linked into national Women's Health Strategy/Plan in England and Scotland and connected into high level conversations in Northern Ireland and Wales where strategies are in development. This grants programme will support innovative, nurse or midwife-led initiatives that improve the health of women.

We are particularly interested in projects which focus on prevention and address health inequalities ensuring that a woman's age, ethnicity, sexuality, disability or where she is from does not impact her ability to receive information, access services, or the care she receives. Proposals should focus on a stage of women's lives e.g. menstrual health, preconception care or menopause.

All projects **must be nurse or midwife -led** and have the nursing/midwifery contribution to healthcare at their core. Whilst the trustees will fund innovative and original nursing research, their main aim is to act as change agents facilitating quality improvements that benefit nursing and midwifery, women's health, experience and outcomes. This could include the adoption of innovative or best practice for individuals, groups or nursing/midwifery teams and may focus on developing expertise or leadership capacity for women's health.

It is important that projects or programmes of work have the potential not only to make positive changes locally but are able to be adopted and spread across the health/social care system. Proposals must be well-argued and demonstrate why the project is needed, what benefits and impacts it will deliver and describe how it will generate learning that can be shared, disseminated and adopted more widely.

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<sup>1</sup> Where the term nurse is used in this document it includes midwives, health visitors and allied health professionals.

## Grant Guidelines for Applicants

Please be thoughtful about capturing the outcomes of your planned initiative. We expect to see evidence of listening to women's voices of experience and a planned approach to evaluation including metrics that demonstrate the impact of the work quantitatively as well as qualitatively.

All successful grant holders will be expected to take part in a half-day conference in central London to share their learning and publicise the outcomes of this programme.

### Eligibility

Applicant organisations *must be*:

- properly constituted bodies in the public or voluntary/charity sectors; or
- a university or other charitable educational body that provides health-related education, training or research and development.

Projects *must*:

- be nurse/midwife-led,
- demonstrate an innovative approach to strengthening nursing and/or midwifery leadership.

Salary costs are normally excluded; the only exception is the additional cost of locum cover, staff to provide training, support, research and development, or to undertake project management or evaluation, which are an integral part of the project proposal and would not otherwise be funded by the applicant organisation, which may be included in an application for funding.

### Exclusions

The Trust will not fund:

- salary costs, posts, services or direct care costs that are regarded as the core funding responsibilities or statutory responsibility of Government or a public body.
- projects developed and undertaken by individuals, or personal study.
- private sector organisations.
- the costs of laptop computers, tablets and mobile phones.
- projects that are part of established improvement programmes or projects which are already funded by other bodies.
- projects concerned with the statutory elements of staff transfer or the mandatory retraining or orientation of staff to new organisations.

### Funding & Awards

Grants awarded within this programme will typically be between £50,000 and £100,000.

Please be mindful that we have a limited fund and so we can fund more proposals of a lower amount.

### Expectations

- Projects are likely to be completed within a 12-month period.

## Grant Guidelines for Applicants

- Progress reports and financial statements will be required at six monthly intervals, with a final report and financial statement submitted within two months of the project completion date.
- The award will usually be paid in equal instalments linked to the reporting cycle, and upon receipt of a satisfactory progress report and financial statement.
- Successful grant holders will be invited to participate in a series of online peer learning sessions to provide encouragement and support. It is hoped that connections and partnerships might emerge between work funded within this Women's Health Programme.
- In addition to their own plans for dissemination and knowledge transfer, the Trust would like to work with grant holders to tell their story in a range of media. We would therefore like six high resolution images which capture the impact of the work, and the Trust will provide the necessary consent and permission forms.
- Successful applicants will also be expected to contribute to a Trust conference in Central London. This will enable those leading projects to learn from one another in the hope that further synergy might be found. Please include any travel expenses required in your budget.

### What will Trustees look for in applications?

Trustees anticipate a large number of project proposals. Project proposals will be evaluated on a competitive basis to ensure that funds are used to support projects that best meet the Trust's objectives.

Trustees aim to fund projects that:

- are innovative, offering new ways to strengthen and improve nursing/midwifery leadership.
- provide evidence of direct user involvement and the co-production of self-care solutions.
- address an area of inequalities with a focus on prevention.
- focus on patient/service user safety and the promotion of dignity and respect.
- will generate learning or new practices that can be shared with others, and which have the potential to be disseminated and adopted more widely.
- will promote collaborative working among health and social care professionals, and partnerships within and across organisations.
- have the support and backing of key stakeholders including those engaged in national women's health plans in your area.
- have sound arrangements for project management and monitoring, and robust plans for evaluation with a clear approach to capturing impact quantitatively and qualitatively.
- are succinct, well-argued and demonstrate clearly why the project is needed and what benefits it will deliver.

### Application Process and Deadlines

## Grant Guidelines for Applicants

The Trust recognises that developing grant applications is time consuming and can result in disappointment. To minimise the burden on applicants, the application process has been designed to be as user-friendly as possible, using online application technology. Applicants are advised to download the questions in advance and prepare their answers carefully before attempting to complete the application form online. All applications will be acknowledged and, if necessary, applicants will be contacted during the assessment process to answer any questions relating to their application.

**Applicants must download a copy of the Trust's Grant Contract** prior to making an application to ensure their organisation can agree to its terms and conditions in the event of a grant being offered.

The link to the application form will open on **Monday 6 January 2025** and are **strongly advised** to apply well in advance of the deadline: **midnight, Friday 7 February 2025.**

Applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application within three months of the closing date.

**Please note: the Trustees' decisions are final and unfortunately, we do not have the resources to provide feedback to each project lead as why applications are declined.**

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### ***Data Protection Act***

*To comply with this Act, we require your consent to use personal data supplied by you in the processing and review of your grant application. This includes transfer to and use by such individuals and organisations as the Trust deems appropriate. The Trust requires your further assurance that personal data about any other individual is supplied to the Trust with his/her consent. Submitting an outline proposal to the Trust confirms this consent and assurance.*