

## WITNEY TOWN COUNCIL

Youth Services Grant
APPLICATION FORM

(PLEASE COMPLETE ELECTRONICALLY)

Organisation					
Name of Organisation	APCAM				
Registered Address (including Post Code)	1 The Green Alvescot OX18 2QD				
Website	www.apcamgroup.org.uk	Telephone			
Facebook/Twitter	@apcamgroup	Email	lizzie.hubbard@apcamgroup.org.uk		
Contact Name	Lizzie Hubbard				
Position in Organisation	Administrative manager (i.e. Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary)				
Registered Charity	YES/NO	Registration Number	1186256		

## What are the activities and/or aims of the organisation?

APCAM are a free-at-the-point-of-need mental health services for families based in West Oxfordshire who are in mental health crisis. Our aim is to ensure that no child, young person, parent, carer or family member are alone in their mental health journey, and that the best level of support is available to them when needed and for free. Access to such services can be extremely limited, as experienced by every member of staff or volunteer at APCAM - we know the struggle of experiencing mental health crisis alone, therefore will not stop until we feel that the community is supported to the level that it deserves. Our services include a weekly parent drop-in (where parents can meet the team and receieve advice or support about theirs or their child's mental health), weekly youth drop-in (a similar concept, but for young people themselves to be able to access a mental health professional as well as meet other young people in a similar situation), weekly counselling sessions for children and young people (completely free, with our in-house counsellor), as well as school workshops, training courses, mentoring schemes and SEMH/neurodivergence advice and support. We are able to provide families with the advice they need to navigate these struggles emotionally, practically when looking at paperwork or liaising with schools, and to create a sense of community during what can be such a lonely time.

Membership				
How many members do you have?	Approximately 150 service users at least			
Approximately how many of your members live in Witney?	Approximately 30% of our service users live in witney. 100% of service users are within a 10 mile radius of witney			
Is membership restricted in any way?	no			
What is your annual subscription, if any?	n/a			
Are you affiliated to Oxfordshire Youth or other similar umbrella organisation? If so, which one?	Oxfordshire youth have attended our services to observe, and have had other affiliations with us.  We also have affiliations with oxfordshire mind			
Local venue/meeting place (if applicable)	The Allandale centre, carterton			

## **Grant-Funding**

## Purpose for which the grant is required:

Since being awarded a grant from The National Lottery Community Fund at the end of 2021, we have been able to expand our parent services that support the families in our local area. This increase in our service users has therefore made us aware of a new need to support the young people of the parents we accommodate. NHS CAMHS waiting lists in West Oxfordshire are nearing 4 years, meaning that children and young people in mental health need are unable to access vital support whilst in mental health crisis. As a trial using donations from fund-raising activities, we have set up a summer holiday young person mental health drop-in once a week that sees children and young people be invited to come and speak to our trained mental health team about their wellbeing, meet other young people who are also struggling so that they can form vital connections and friendships, and provides a safe and welcoming space for vulnerable young people within our community. Since opening this, we have had tens of young people attend and comment on the success and need for this to continue. This is why a funding opportunity such as this would allow us to permanently open an after-school youth mental health drop-in clinic, providing advice, support and community for the young people of West Oxfordshire in mental health crisis. We aim to run this permanently, but at first our target is a year. This will be promoted on our popular social media platforms, local newsletters and school bulletins, as well as word of mouth with our service users. The success of this will allow us to project the way we aim to be sustainable within our APCAM services in the future. We will also be able to maintain our current services which includes our weekly parent drop in clinic and weekly free-at-the-point-of-need counselling service for children and young people.

This project encompasses a sense of community within the young people we see - they are able to form relationships with others who are in mental health crisis, as well as get them to come to our local families centre where other organisations are present that are able to provide services to the community. By facilitating a safe environment where a professional mental health team are present, young people are able to explore their mental health and work through issues that are preventing them from reaching their full potential at school or within their lives. Early intervention is key in preventing mental health struggles in adulthood, and targets mental health crisis at the earliest possible moment.

Amount of grant applied for	£ 20,000			
Has your organisation previously applied to the Town Council for a grant?  YES/N				
If YES, please give details				
Have you applied for a grant to ar	ny other body or organ	isation?	YES/NO	
If YES, please give details	We are currently at the end of our lotto community fund grant. We have perviously had money from carterton town council also.			
Financial				
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General	
Please provide or attach any ac decision.	Iditional information which may assist the Council in reaching its
have provided them. This is just or	onial from one of our young service users talking about the support we ne example of the impact APCAM has on the local community who are th struggle, particularly children and young people.
Viewing our social media platform the need for our se	s (@apcam) and our website (www.apcamgroup.org.uk) also highlight ervices to remain open and available for the community.
	is true to the best of my knowledge and belief, and that I am
uthorised to make this application	for Grant-aid.
Signed:	Date: 30.08.2022
If posting, please return your comple	eted application form to the address overleaf, for the attention of the TOWN CLERK

For office use only:  Acknowledged		Previously Applied	
Grant Aid Awarded/Amount	Y/N	Chq No.	