

NEWS RELEASE

Publication: 19 March 2009



LOCAL MP ENCOURAGES EFFECTIVE GIVING FOR LOCAL CHARITIES

121 New London Road,
Chelmsford, Essex CM2 0QT
T. 01245 355947
F. 01245 346391
general@essexcf.org.uk
www.essexcommunityfoundation.org.uk

John Whittingdale MP met with Laura Warren, OBE DL, Chief Executive of Essex Community Foundation at a recent Parliamentary Reception held in the House of Lords. They joined over 300 leaders of Community Foundations from across Britain to promote effective charitable giving to MPs and Peers.

"We wanted our local MPs to understand the amazing contribution being made to the community by local philanthropists here in Essex", said Laura. "It is very important in these difficult times that there are local people ready to give and make a real difference to hundreds of local people."

The Minister for the Third Sector, Kevin Brennan MP used the occasion to launch the Government's £15.5 million Community Resilience Fund which will provide grant funding to small and medium providers in communities most at risk of increased deprivation due to the recession. This follows on from their existing Grassroots Grants and Endowment Match Challenge programme, which offers Government funding to support local grassroots community groups.

Grassroots offers an added incentive for anyone wanting to give support to local charities, the chance to increase all donations received by the Foundation by at least 50% until March 2011. For more information visit www.essexcommunityfoundation.org.uk or call Bob Sherer, Development Director, on 01245 355947.

[Ends]

(201/190309)

Note to Editor: Essex Community Foundation is a local grantmaking trust which manages funds on behalf of a wide range of donors who want their charitable giving to be effective and accessible to local charities. Since the Foundation was established in 1996, nearly 3,500 voluntary and community groups have benefited from grants totalling nearly £13 million.

For further information contact

Laura Warren/Jo Murphy
Essex Community Foundation
Tel: 01245 355947 Fax: 01245 346391
E-mail: general@essexcf.org.uk

Notes to Editors:

Essex Community Foundation was set up in 1996 and has established a grants programme which has seen nearly 3,500 Essex based charities and community groups receive around £13 million in grants. Funds are distributed on behalf of a wide range of donors who want their charitable giving to be accessible to local charities. www.essexcommunityfoundation.org.uk

Community Foundations are independent charities committed to supporting projects that engage local people. Since the 1980s, a nationwide network of Community Foundations has developed, endorsed by many major public figures and leading companies.

There are 1000's of charities and voluntary groups working for the community to create a richer society for all. Community Foundations build endowed funds and make grants to these organisations.

- There are 55 local Community Foundations in the UK covering 94% of the population
- Collectively they manage endowed funds of circa £200 million
- In 2006/07 Community Foundations distributed grants totalling £75million.