

The Edith M Ellis 1985 Charitable Trust

Mass Action Charity

#KYDKX87Y8G submitted on 24 November 2023

1.1 Please summarise what you are seeking from us

We would like to use this grant to support Collective Aid's activities in Northern France. Because of anti-migration policies, less attention and care are given to people on the move, making it essential to ensure that grassroots NGOs can keep operations going. We are seeking your help in supporting Collective Aid's transportation costs, essential to provide their services, to go to the living sites, the warehouse, and the WASH center.

1.2 Tell us more about your project, the impact it will have on those it aims to help, and why you consider the proposed approach to be innovative

Collective Aid operates in Calais, Northern France, along the French-UK border. They believe that safe and legal routes should be ensured for everyone, especially as people stuck at this border are forced to live in inhumane conditions. They support the needs of people on the move by giving them access to shelter and essential services. They distribute non-food items (NFI) such as clothes, shoes or tents, and offer a laundry service at the WASH Centre, a space where people can seek a safe area to rest and join in activities.

Collective Aid's work is based on assessing individual needs in informal living sites around Calais, to ensure that people who are the most vulnerable, such as new arrivals, have access to NFI and information about other services they can access. They work with an inter-organisational network, utilising a referral system, which ensures that people have access to services that meet their needs. We believe that individual assessments allow a more dignified approach, focusing on the notion of choice and enabling a sustainable allocation of goods. A free shop is also available at the WASH center so that people can select items that they need.

The WASH Center was created due to the lack of water access for displaced people in Calais. Clothes that cannot be washed are thrown away, leading to a lasting need for new items and challenging distribution efficiency. By allowing people to wash their clothes, Collective Aid deals with a sustainability issue, as well as providing people with water, sanitation and hygiene services. Moreover, the WASH is a safe place to relax, play games, read, or rest during the day. Following requests from users, volunteers also offer language support, to help people strengthen their English and French skills.

Collective Aid has a non-discriminatory policy, ensuring that services are accessible equally regardless of legal status, nationality, religion, etc. The majority of their service users are young adult men who have fled conflict and insecurity. They often arrive in Calais after a rough journey shaped by injustices and trauma, sometimes lasting for years. Life in Calais is still tough because of harassment from police who routinely carry out evictions of the living sites, taking personal belongings and tents, and incarcerating people on the move. These actions work to prevent more permanent living sites through Calais' non-fixation policies, creating more instability for those sleeping rough.

Since the start of 2023, Collective Aid has provided material distributions to 7,583 people. 1,800 people have used our services at the WASH Centre, with expectations the number will grow as more people become aware of the location through referrals and word of mouth. Some people may use their services for a few days or weeks only, but others may rely upon them for several months.

As long as the government fails to provide essential humanitarian needs to displaced people, Collective

Aid's services are required to provide essential basic human needs. That's precisely why they, together with other grassroots NGOs in Calais, complete their actions with advocacy and collect testimonies of border violence, to participate in long-term solutions and pressure French and UK governments, as well as the European Union, to respect basic human rights. Recently, NGOs in Calais conducted the Water for All campaign, promoting water access in northern France. The campaign had a positive impact on political decisions made by the French government who have recognised the right for displaced people in the area to have access to water, with organisations in Calais now monitoring the actual implementation of France's engagements.

1.3 Which grant-giving categories does your project fulfil?

E - Work with forced migrants, including internally displaced people

1.3e Work with forced migrants, including internally displaced people

Collective Aid's service users are people who are forced to leave their country to survive, because of insecurity and persecution. They engage in very dangerous routes with the hope of seeking asylum. According to statistics, most of these people's asylum claims are legitimate and granted once they reach the UK.

1.4 Which country is the project based in?

France (FR)

1.5 Will the project continue after initial funding has ended?

Yes

1.5b Please give details of how you plan to continue after initial funding has ended

Collective Aid intends to keep working until no longer needed, which would imply important policy changes. That's precisely why they are always in need of new funding, to ensure that they can keep their activities going, essential to the survival of displaced people at the border. They are always looking for new supporters and have relied on grants and individual donations since 2019.

1.6 How will the project be monitored and evaluated?

CA is attentive to both data and narrative points to improve its strategies. We track the number of items distributed and the number of people using our services, allowing us to make informed decisions. This is reinforced by inter-associational cooperation and a referral system used to target specific gaps met on the ground. We also acknowledge the importance of feedback from volunteers, coordinators and beneficiaries, taking them into account to update our services.

2.1 Expenditure

| EXPENDITURE ITEM | AMOUNT | NOTES |
|-------------------------------------|--------|---------------------|
| WASH Rent | £8,255 | monthly cost / year |
| WASH Bills | £4,179 | monthly cost / year |
| Volunteer House Bills | £3,134 | monthly cost / year |
| Volunteer House Rent | £7,126 | monthly cost / year |
| Vehicle Insurance (2 vehicles) | £2,369 | once a year |
| Vehicle Maintenance | £3,657 | monthly cost / year |
| Vehicle Fuel | £2,612 | monthly cost / year |
| Medical Checks (adhere labour laws) | £766 | x4 times / year |
| Civil Insurance | £422 | once a year |
| Bank Account Fees | £313 | monthly cost / year |

| | | |
|--------------------------|---------|--|
| Office and WASH supplies | £418 | monthly cost / year |
| Salaries + taxes | £39,655 | monthly cost / year (including Director, Programme Manager, the Human resources Coordinator and the NFI Project Coordinator) |
| TOTALS | £72,906 | |

2.2 Income

| INCOME SOURCE | TARGET AMOUNT | AMOUNT RAISED | NOTES |
|---------------------------------|---------------|---------------|----------|
| Un Rien C'est Tout | £8,436 | £0 | Applied |
| Ashworth Trust | £3,066 | £0 | Applied |
| Chalk Cliff Trust | £4,071 | £4,071 | Rewarded |
| Private Donation | £827 | £0 | Rewarded |
| Fondation Abbé Pierre | £26,119 | £0 | Applied |
| Calais Appeal Winter Fundraiser | £17,414 | £0 | Ongoing |
| TOTALS | £59,933 | £4,071 | |

2.3 What is the total amount (in £ sterling) your organisation is requesting from The Edith M Ellis Trust?

£3,935

2.4 Has your organisation made an application to The Edith M Ellis Trust before?

No

2.5 Please state your organisation's annual turnover (in £ sterling)

£60,758

2.6 Do you wish to upload your audited accounts or financial statement?

No

2.7 Please tell us where payment should be made if your application is successful

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67224146

089299

3.1 Your name

Calum Frost

3.2 Your contact telephone number

+447474018913

3.3 Your position within the organisation

Trustee

3.4 Your email address

admin@massaction.charity

3.5 Organisation name

Mass Action Charity

3.6 Please state the status of your organisation

UK Charity

3.7 Please summarise what your organisation does

MASS Action supports grassroots projects, such as Collective Aid, which work to provide dignified and sustainable initiatives for migrants and asylum seekers. We believe in safe and legal freedom of movement for all. We also work towards an increased awareness of the social, economic, political and ecological factors causing migration to challenge negative public perceptions of people on the move.

3.8 UK correspondence address for organisation

87 Broadway
Grantchester
Cambridge
CB3 9NQ

3.9 UK telephone number

+447474018913

3.10 UK charity number (if applicable)

1177804

3.11 Year established

2018

3.12 Website (if applicable)

<https://www.massaction.charity/>

3.13 Social media accounts (if applicable)

Insta: <https://www.instagram.com/massactionuk/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MASSActionUK/>

4.1 How did you hear about The Edith M Ellis Trust?

theedithmellischaritabletrust.org