

# The Edith M Ellis 1985 Charitable Trust

## Reboot the Future

#MBY9VPHF9J submitted on 30 May 2024

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### 1.1 Please summarise what you are seeking from us

We seek £5,000 to expand our Walking Conversations initiative, empowering communities to foster connection and meaningful dialogue through guided outdoor discussions. By piloting new thematic focuses and marketing strategies, and creating a comprehensive free toolkit, we aim to enable workplaces, schools, and communities to hold their own Walking Conversations. This initiative will promote peace, sustainability, and personal growth, reaching 18,000 teachers and 1000 businesses, inspiring action towards a more just and sustainable world.

### Tell us more about your project and the impact it will have on those it aims to help, and how it will bring about significant change

Reboot the Future is dedicated to fostering a peaceful, just, and sustainable world through innovative ideas. Our mission is rooted in the Golden Rule—treat others and the planet as we wish to be treated. We spread this message across education, leadership, and cultural arenas, believing that genuine connections—with ourselves, others, and the planet—are essential for meaningful action.

Our flagship program, Global Dimension, reaches 18,000 teachers with resources to promote peace and sustainability in classrooms worldwide. In 2023, we piloted Walking Conversations, an innovative initiative designed to foster connection and meaningful dialogue. These 1-2 hour activities involve up to 30 participants in guided discussions while walking through natural or urban landscapes. Facilitated by trained leaders, these conversations promote personal growth and understanding, build bridges, and foster peace by encouraging empathy and open communication. As a result, Crown Estate participants reported feeling a deeper connection with nature and their colleagues, and felt their voices were heard.

We seek funding to expand our Walking Conversations initiative by developing a comprehensive toolkit for organisations across the UK, focusing on workplaces and schools. Our goal is to empower others to hold their own Walking Conversations, spreading connection and meaningful conversation within their communities and inspiring collective action towards a more peaceful and sustainable world.

Between September and December 2024, we will:

Pilot 3 Walking Conversations: Each session will include up to 20 participants from local communities to foster broader community engagement.

Test New Themes :

Future Ancestors: Contemplating our long-term impact.

Nature Connection: Learning from nature's wisdom on balance, reciprocity, diversity, and interdependence.

Urban Connection: Reflecting on personal roles and aspirations for positive change in urban spaces.

Explore New Marketing Approaches: Targeting participants such as shop and office workers in the same geographical area, we will develop innovative marketing strategies to attract diverse groups.

High-Profile Partners: Partnering with organisations like the RSA to enhance credibility and reach.

Create and Distribute a Toolkit: Promote an online toolkit for schools, workplaces, and community groups to hold their own Walking Conversations. This will be promoted to our Global Dimension audience of 18,000 teachers, and through targeted marketing to businesses and community groups.

Run 'Train the Trainers' Webinars: Ensure effective use of the toolkit, empowering a growing network of facilitators.

Walking Conversations address the emotional and relational aspects of climate and social crises by blending physical activity in natural or urban environments with meaningful dialogue. This approach aligns with growing trends in well-being practices, providing mental stimulation, relaxation, and digital-free time to connect with others. Participants find this method refreshing and engaging, walking through vibrant city streets or tranquil parks.

#### Who Will Benefit?

60 participants in the 3 pilot Walking Conversations will have time to reflect deeply on issues, hone empathetic skills such as deep listening, and forge connections with local peers.

10 trainers will develop skills in group facilitation and teaching empathy-building techniques through our webinars.

18,000 teachers and our newsletter audience of 1,000 businesses will have free access to our online toolkit, providing guidance on event organisation, group facilitation, and teaching empathy.

#### Expected Outcomes

**Increased Empathy:** 60 participants in our 3 Walking Conversations will develop the ability to connect with others through curious, non-judgmental conversations and empathy skills, including deep listening.

**Skills Development:** 1,000 people will engage with the Walking Conversations toolkit, offering a guide on how to host their own conversations, including event organisation, group facilitation skills, and teaching empathy. Reboot will directly train 10 people to run Walking Conversations, who can then train others.

**Adoption and Roll-out:** We aim for at least 15 workplaces, schools, and community groups to hold their own Walking Conversations within the first year, reaching over 100 participants.

### **1.3 Which grant-giving categories does your project fulfil?**

B - Peace-building and conflict resolution

#### **1.3b Peace-building and conflict resolution**

Walking Conversations foster empathy by encouraging non-judgmental curiosity towards others' experiences and ideas. They bring diverse individuals together in a safe environment, promoting respectful dialogue and active listening. This strengthens relationships and builds resilient communities capable of handling conflicts peacefully, laying the foundation for lasting peace and effective conflict resolution.

### **1.4 Which country is the project based in?**

United Kingdom (GB)

### **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**

Reboot will continue to:

Promote the toolkit to encourage others to hold Walking Conversations.

Monitor the impact of Walking Conversations - measure impact of growing connections within communities - e.g. increasing numbers of people meeting, individuals personal development and actions taken as a result of the Walking Conversations.

### **1.6 How will the project be monitored and evaluated?**

Our measurement and evaluation framework will assess reach, engagement, and impact. Through surveys, we'll gauge the experiences of pilot group participants, focusing on enjoyment, depth of reflection, and subsequent actions. We'll also evaluate trainers' perceptions of event facilitation, event uptake, and overall impact. Impact data will measure participants' new skills and actions taken post-conversation at 3 and 6 months. Online engagement will be tracked through toolkit clicks/views.

## 2.1 Expenditure

| EXPENDITURE ITEM   | AMOUNT | NOTES |
|--|--------|-------|
| Marketing materials for 3 Walking Conversations                  | £750   |       |
| Design of toolkit for business and schools                       | £2,000 |       |
| Website development  | £750   |       |
| Social media marketing campaign to promote Walking Conversations | £1,500 |       |
| TOTALS   | £5,000 |       |

## 2.2 Income

| INCOME SOURCE | TARGET AMOUNT | AMOUNT RAISED | NOTES |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------|
|               | £0            | £0            |       |
|               | £0            | £0            |       |
| TOTALS        | £0            | £0            |       |

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

£5,000

## 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)

£319,440

## 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

Reboot the Future Charity

01894307

400213

## 3.1 Your name

Anthony Bennett

## 3.2 Your contact telephone number

07592667833

## 3.3 Your position within the organisation

Chief Executive Officer

## 3.4 Your email address

[anthony@rebootthefuture.org](mailto:anthony@rebootthefuture.org)

## 3.5 Organisation name

Reboot the Future

**3.6 Please state the status of your organisation**

UK Charity

**3.7 Please summarise what your organisation does**

Reboot the Future is a non-profit dedicated to a sustainable and equitable future. Rooted in the ancient principle of treating others and the planet as you wish to be treated, we tackle global crises like biodiversity loss and social injustice. Our model fosters connections through campaigns, education, and leadership programs, integrating arts, culture, and conversation. We inspire and empower individuals to align with their values and take action for a better world.

**3.8 UK correspondence address for organisation**

45 Priory Avenue, London, W4 1TZ

**3.9 UK telephone number**

07592667833

**3.10 UK charity number (if applicable)**

1175177

**3.11 Year established**

2017

**3.12 Website (if applicable)**

<http://www.rebootthefuture.org.uk>, <http://www.globaldimension.org.uk>

**3.13 Social media accounts (if applicable)**

@futurereboot

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

Word of mouth