



Since 1618

**HAMMERSMITH  
UNITED  
CHARITIES**

# A Gift in your Will

Supporting the community since 1618



*It all started with a gift in a Will - back in 1618 when Dr Thomas Edwards left £100 to the poor of Fulham. This marked the beginning of what is known today as Hammersmith United Charities and nearly 400 years later we are still here supporting local people in need.*

We provide a vital service in the local community. Our two modern Almshouses supply sheltered housing to 100 local people who would otherwise struggle to find a suitable home and our Grants Programme helps to prevent and relieve hardship and distress for local people in need.

But it's not enough.

Local need is increasing and the demand for our services is growing year on year.

Our Area of Benefit is densely populated and that population is increasing rapidly. A high proportion of the people who live here, especially children and older people live in poverty exacerbated by a poor quality environment. We have ambitious plans to grow our services to ensure that we can help meet this growing need in the future.

For example, we are currently progressing plans together with the Shepherd's Bush Housing Group

for an intergenerational housing scheme, enabling us to increase the scale of housing provision for older people in our community.

We are proud to donate £350,000 a year through our Grants Programme to help local community organisations tackle poverty, deprivation and disadvantage, but each year we have to turn down as many good funding applications as we support. We know that leaves vulnerable local people without the support they need.

Alone, we do not have the resources to meet the growing need in Hammersmith. We rely on the help of local people as much today as in 1618.

### Can we rely on you?

Help us continue what Dr Thomas Edwards started nearly 400 years ago.

We know family and friends come first – we wouldn't want it any other way. But, if you do have room to include a gift in your Will to help change local lives, however large or small, then thank you. Your gift will not only help us to reach even more people who need us, it will also help ensure that we will still be here to keep supporting them in another 400 years.

Even a small amount can make a big difference and it won't cost you anything in your lifetime



### How to include a gift in your Will

We recommend that you use a solicitor to draft or update your Will. It's cheaper than you might think and a properly drafted Will gives you peace of mind that your wishes will be properly honoured. If you don't already have a solicitor, you can follow the link below to the Law Society's website and use the quick search option to help find one local to you.

[www.solicitors.lawsociety.org.uk](http://www.solicitors.lawsociety.org.uk)  
020 7320 5650

### Contact us

We understand that your will is a deeply personal and private document. For a confidential conversation about including a gift to Hammersmith United Charities

in your Will please contact:

Tim Hughes

[clerk@hamunitedcharities.com](mailto:clerk@hamunitedcharities.com)

We can help advise you over the different types of gift you can leave, as well as provide example Will wording that you can take with you to your solicitor.

We would also love to hear from you if you have already included a gift to Hammersmith United Charities in your Will.

This information is not legally binding in any way, but it will give us the opportunity to thank you for becoming such an important part of our community's future, as well as to keep you up to date on the work that your gift may help to fund.

### The different types of gift you can leave

Your solicitor will ask you what type of gift you would like to leave.

The options are below:

- A gift of all, or part, of the value of your estate once all debts, expenses and specified gifts to friends and family have been paid. (Residuary)
- A gift of a fixed amount, for example £100 or £10,000 (Pecuniary)
- A gift of a particular item or asset (Specific) – for example jewellery, a painting, stocks and shares or a property

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