

Short of Funds?

Here are some examples of successful applications from East Beds Division:

Two Districts wanted to promote Girlguiding in their local area so applied via their local Bedfordshire County Councillors for grants to purchase **portable display boards** which have been used in Libraries or at local events e.g. Recruitment Week to tell the local community what we do and hopefully find some new Adult Leaders in the process.

A Guide unit meeting in a local school wanted to include cooking in their programme, so applied to the community Fund for **2 portable electric cookers** (including grills, hobs and ovens) to use at unit meetings. These are stored in a cupboard at the school, so are available for 3 other Brownie units to use as well.

One District already had one set of **Handchimes** which they regularly used to entertain hospital patients at Papworth and residents of Pemdale Home - a grant from the Community Fund enabled a whole pack to be involved playing together instead of half the girls getting bored standing around watching.

By promoting a **sleepover on HMS Belfast** as an ideal introduction of girls to a mainly male career environment; two Brownie Packs were able to subsidise half the cost of their sleepover with support from the Community Fund.

One Brownie Pack has obtained half the cost of a **second-hand laptop computer** to enable Brownies who do not have a computer at home to prepare for their Computer Skills Badge, produce posters and display materials at meetings, and for Guiders to keep up to date Waiting Lists and Subs payments information

Division Guiders took advantage of free **transport to the last County Training Day** - BLCVS agreed that we come from isolated communities in East Beds and we also had the furthest to travel to Leighton Buzzard, and so paid for the coach.

Finally, with the help of the parent a Brownie with severe special needs, one Brownie Pack received full funding including transport on a minibus for a **Pack Holiday to Waddow Hall** in Lancashire. At the time we had three girls with various special needs in the pack as well as one girl who was the sister of a girl in a wheelchair and hence a carer in her own right. We felt that they all needed to experience a special Pack Holiday together in a safe environment and successfully bid for a small grant (£500 - £5000) from the Awards for All scheme.

Don't be put off by a few forms - there are many people out there who can help you and it really is worth the effort!

Try Bedfordshire Funding Advice Bureau, 43, Bromham Road, Bedford.MK40 2AA.
01234 36 36 38 www.bedfordshirefunding.org.uk

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