

# THE OLIVE BRANCH

## CHRISTIAN COUNSELLING SERVICE



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11 October 2018

Dear Brendan

Thank you for your email of 23 September 2018 regarding requests for grant funding in 2019 - 20. The Olive Branch Christian Counselling Service is celebrating its 21<sup>st</sup> year of operation in Winchester.

We are a locally registered charity. Our purpose is to provide counselling to the over 18s in Winchester and the surrounding area. Our services are offered to the whole community regardless of financial situation. Many of our clients are on low income or benefits and cannot afford anything other than a nominal contribution. Our income comes principally from donations made by our clients (68%). Our main expenses are the cost of renting our building and salary costs. We fundraise ourselves; this year we held a fundraising dinner, theatre dinner, raffles and table top stalls.

Our 46 counsellors are all volunteers, 56% have completed formal counselling to Level 5 or above, the remainder are trainees undertaking training in local colleges. All counsellors receive fortnightly Supervision from The Olive Branch's 10 Supervisors. We have 4 part-time paid staff; the Clinical Director, Head of Counselling, Assistant Head of Counselling and a book keeper. We rely on unpaid volunteers to manage the administrative tasks including 2 volunteers to manage the financial and company secretarial affairs of our counselling service. This year we employed a logistics officer for three months, 10 hours a week. We are now wishing to formalise this role and employ a business manager dependant on funding.

In 2017 we offered around 3500 sessions and in addition to clients we already had at the start of 2017, assigned a further 209 new clients. Any grant received would assist with payment of our Annual Fire Test Certificate costs £275.00. Also a replacement water heater and fitting - £300.00; invoice is enclosed.

Thank you for considering The Olive Branch Christian Counselling Service for a grant to support our work in the local community; this is much appreciated.

Kind Regards

*H E McMahon*

Helen McMahon MBE  
Director The Olive Branch Christian Counselling Service  
Director and Chairman of the Executive Committee

The Olive Branch Christian Counselling Service Ltd.

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