

# The Furniture Scheme



enabling  
— fund —

Supporting people on low income to improve  
their employment prospects for the future

[www.furniturescheme.co.uk](http://www.furniturescheme.co.uk)

## What is the Enabling Fund and who can apply?

The Enabling Fund provides financial help to individuals who have the will and motivation to help themselves but lack the essential finance to be able to overcome barriers and hurdles in their way to employment.

The Enabling fund particularly seeks to support people on low income who want to improve their employment prospects.

The Enabling Fund is locally targeted at people living in south Shropshire, specifically the market towns of Ludlow, Craven Arms, Bishop's Castle, Church Stretton and Cleobury Mortimer and the surrounding rural villages and parishes.

*We see value in everything, especially people.*

## The grant

Grants of up to £500 are available, but we will consider applications for larger amounts. The average grant is £250.

Over the years the Enabling Fund has supported:

- ✓ driving lessons to enable access to work
- ✓ childcare and transport costs to attend an interview
- ✓ small car repairs or an MOT to get back to work
- ✓ a suit for an interview
- ✓ trade tools to enable career progression
- ✓ start up costs for a new business
- ✓ Short term training and educational fees

## **Facts and Figures**

The Enabling Fund has supported 125 individuals in south Shropshire since 2012.

The Social Return On Investment of the Enabling Fund calculates at an incredible £19.42 for every £1 invested.

The Furniture Scheme manages the Enabling Fund on behalf of the Hall Garth Charitable Trust.

## **Would you like to support the Enabling Fund?**

We are seeking organisations and individuals who may be interested and able to donate to the Enabling Fund.

With your support we will be able to help more people in need in south Shropshire. Whatever you can give will be most gratefully received and will make a big difference to someone's life.

Contact us for more details.

## Real life stories from recipients of the Enabling Fund:

**Marc**, a mature student and father of young children, was unable to continue attending his mental health nursing course due to lack of transport and funds. The Enabling Fund helped him to buy a second hand car and therefore continue his studies. **He is now a registered Mental Health Nurse in full time employment.**

**Rob** was in part time employment on minimum wage and struggling to pay his bills and support his children. The Enabling Fund paid for 10 driving lessons to get Rob on the road. Rob quickly passed his test and the fund then helped towards his insurance costs. **He was subsequently able to increase his hours to full time and is now flourishing in his work.**

**Jane**, in her forties, was unable to read or write. She had struggled to gain employment and support her young daughter. She had a willingness to learn but lacked the resources to do so. The Enabling Fund has paid for 40 one-on-one literacy lessons for Jane and her reading and writing has greatly improved. **She is now in part time employment.**



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