

## **A brief guide to the Terrence Higgins Trust hardship fund / Terrence Higgins Trust.**

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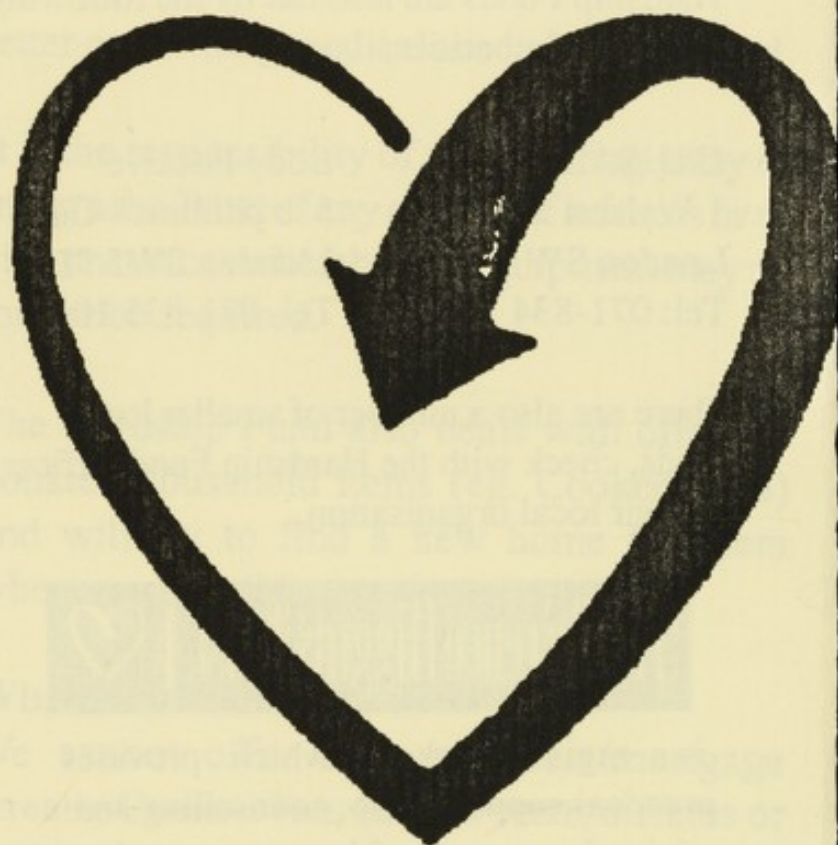
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A BRIEF GUIDE  
TO THE TERRENCE  
HIGGINS TRUST  
HARDSHIP  
FUND

*The Terrence Higgins Trust*



**Who can apply?**

Anyone with symptomatic HIV/AIDS who is experiencing financial difficulties or extra expenses relating to their HIV status.

We can only give help to the person affected by HIV disease and cannot give help to partners, families and others involved in the care of that person.

We are unable to fund applications from people who are HIV+ but asymptomatic.

The fund accepts applications from anywhere in the in the United Kingdom.

**How to apply?**

The fund uses an application form procedure, all applications must be referred through a third party, for example a Social Worker, Welfare Rights Worker, Health Adviser, Terrence Higgins Trust Buddy.

Applications forms are available from the address at the end of this leaflet or by calling 071-831 0330. Most HIV specialist centre also have supplies of the form.

A letter confirming symptomatic HIV/AIDS

**The Terrence Higgins Trust**





from a medical practitioner is required for each applicant.

If help with a bill is sought the complete original bill is needed.

Application forms, letters of diagnosis, and any related paperwork eg. bills, estimates, should be posted to the address given on the form.

**How long does it take?**

Please allow us 5-10 working days to deal with the application.

If the application is not completed correctly this will increase the time taken. Please check the application before it is sent to us.

**Further information.**

If you would like further information about the Hardship Fund call the Hardship Fund Officer on 071-831 0330.

Application forms are available from,  
Hardship Fund  
Terrence Higgins Trust  
42-54 Gays Inn Road  
London WC1X 8JU

Welfare Rights advice is also available from the Terrence Higgins Trust call 071-831 0330 and ask for a Welfare Rights Adviser.

Hardship Funds are also run by the following  
HIV/AIDS charities,

CRUSAID	Body Positive
1 Walcott St	51b philbeach Gdns
London SW1P 2NG	Llondon SW5 9EB
Tel: 071-834 7566	Tel: 071-835 1045

There are also a number of smaller local  
funds, check with the Hardship Fund Officer  
or your local organisation.

**The Terrence Higgins Trust**



is a registered charity which provides  
practical support, help, counselling and  
advice for anyone with or concerned  
about AIDS and HIV infection.

Charity reg. no 288527  
Company reg. no 1778149  
Registered in England  
A Company Limited by Guarantee

Administration & Advice Centre  
Tel: 071-831 0330  
Fax: 071-242 0171

Helpline  
071-242 1010  
3pm-10pm daily

The Terrence Higgins Trust  
52-54 Grays Inn Road  
London WC1X 8JU



letter confirming medical need will be required.

It is the responsibility of the referring party to inform the Trust of any change of address or of circumstances whereby any equipment may no longer be required.

The Hardship Fund also deals with offers of donated household items (eg. Cooker, Sofa) and will try to find a new home for them whenever possible.

#### **What it cannot do**

We cannot offer help with rent/mortgage arrears, Council Tax, funeral costs, airfares or holidays.

This fund is not a replacement for statutory provision (Social Security & Social Services) and these services should be approached first where appropriate.

Our resources are limited and we aim to help those people in most need first, unfortunately therefore some requests have to be turned down. Any payments are on a one-off basis and we can not help regularly with bills.

We are unable to make cash loans.

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### **What is the Hardship Fund?**

The Terrence Higgins Trust runs a discretionary small grants fund that provides direct financial help for individuals affected by HIV/AIDS facing financial hardship or extreme expenditure due to their HIV status.

### **What can it help with?**

Requests should be for items/services that will improve the quality of a person's life which they cannot reasonably be expected to afford on their current income, and are not available from statutory authorities.

Some examples of payments,

- Gas bill
- Electricity bill
- Bedding
- Water bill
- Respite care
- Telephone bill
- Clothing
- Bed
- Sofa bed
- Removal costs
- Emergency money for food

Electrical items may be provided on loan. We will consider helping with the following,

- Cooker
- Fridge
- Fridge/Freezer
- Washing machine
- Microwave
- Tumble dryer

Washing machines are normally only loaned where there is a clear medical need. A doctor's

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