



At the **Community Foundation for Surrey** – we bring together the generosity of those who want to give locally, and voluntary groups providing vital services for local people.

We have been doing this for 15 years. Charities and community groups have never been more needed. Many of the inequalities and local challenges exacerbated by this crisis require us to come together to address these local issues.

We know that **loneliness and isolation** is a real issue across our county, with a third of residents aged 65+ (close to 76,000 older people) living alone.

Research shows that loneliness can take a terrible toll on people's mental, physical and emotional health – and has the same impact on mortality as smoking 15 cigarettes a day.

The Community Foundation for Surrey established a new Fund, specifically to address this critical issue here in Surrey – the **Elder Companionship Fund**.

"We've been moved to set up the Elder Companionship Fund in response to the extremely distressing consequences of the Covid pandemic. Many people in our community were already suffering greatly from loneliness and isolation, but this has only been made more intense and more widespread in recent months. Our goal is to help provide much needed funds to support the staffing and service provision that will be so critical in the months - and years - ahead."

- Founding Donor, Elder Companionship Fund

Match Funding Now Available

We are currently able to match fund new donations that are given to help alleviate **loneliness and isolation** among older people in Surrey on a **£ for £ basis**.

Therefore, a gift of **£1,000** will immediately become **£2,000**, and with Gift Aid included also, it can go even further!

For anyone that donates more than **£10,000**, the founders of the fund also invite you, should you wish to, to become more involved and as the Elder Companionship Fund develops.

To find out more about how you can take advantage of this opportunity, and how we work together with Donors across the county (including individuals and families, Surrey-based companies, charitable trusts and other partners) helping them to make a difference in the area of greatest interest to them, please contact:

Laura Thurlow, Chief Executive: laura@cfsurrey.org.uk **01483 478086**

For further information, visit our webpage: cfsurrey.org.uk/hips-webinar-series-loneliness-and-isolation/

Together We Can provide the help that is urgently needed – bring hope to local people; and make a real difference.

To find out more about the Community Foundation, please visit: cfsurrey.org.uk

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