A group of people standing next to a white board with writing on it

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

**Infrastructure support and Capacity building**

**Challenges in accessing funding**

* Best way to raise money galas (swimming), charge fees, raffles – raising money is so much easier than applying for grants
* Qualifying for grants is really difficult – sometimes turnover is a barriwe. Income generation is the best way for Saxon Crown – big events – small events take as much effort

**Key challenges / good resources**

* Lewisham as a funder helps us generate other funding, gives other funders a sense of security
* Barriers for funding – lack of capacity, show so much more bang for what you are asking for
* People at the frontline dealing with those with the greatest need so have no time
* Funders privilege the privileged.
* Committed volunteers amazing at what they do but not able to decipher funding applications
* Need to kindly coach about fundraising
* In the south huge area of deprivation and no historic infrastructure
* Good groups of committed people, but funds go to people who know how to write them [applications] AI will make it harder to actually separate them and so they gloss over the reality of the organisations
* Small organisations [can have] lots of issues understanding how to complete one form or know where to go for help.
* National Lottery was good to help provide visibility to other funders
* If you divide them into 2 – early stage orgs need the capacity to help them complete [applications so that] people [can] focus on the work delivery – people need help to get the business acumin to male their passionate ideas work.
* On the other side, they get tripped up through grant fatigue and breaking down resilience of orgs through burnout.
* Feedback would help groups to improve but there is a lack of feedback from funders
* Friday fundraising group – WhatsApp group – send it out to people
* Having statistics available helps bid. Stats = proof of need. Strenght in data, area stats help.
* People feel really isolated when they get their applications turned down. Real support [ from] people with and the emotional support for people on the front line.

**What resources or support would help you?**

* The number of volunteers. We hear ‘you should’ – too much falls on too few. [It’s] hard works to get volunteers to share responsibility. [It would help have a] way in which there can be support for people to be volunteers through training and funding
* Place is important and bringing people together – ideally organically a space with a degree of structure
* Come together [with] degrees of formality.
* Collaboration comes especially through bartering and brokering tat create partnerships organically. Lots of little groups that share resources and more organic partnerships which do require coordination.
* Bigger orgs, using resources of smaller orgs workload on smaller orgs . The collaborations are great as long as the work is genuinely supported and not pushed back on to the smaller orgs
* Can be ground down by admin

**What will your organisation need?**

* Volunteering
* Comms is very important especially digital and AI
* Professional advice on a broader scale – financial advice [?] – lots of groups need it
* Spaces to meet in neighbourhoods
* Community hubs – where is the community hub in Downham for example?
* Where there are also resources there than can be used
* Meet the funder opportunities
* Helping people know where they can get together
* PCN is very forward thinking and engaged into the social determinants of health.