

9 December 2021

Dear Brendan,

Thank you for your email dated 18 November 2021 regarding requests for grant funding in 2022. We continue to be very grateful to Tichborne for its support over the years, and for the invitation to apply for further grants.

The Olive Branch is a local charity of over 20 years standing, which offers counselling to adults who live or work in Winchester or the surrounding area. Our service is open to anyone, regardless of race, creed, age, physical ability or financial position. We pride ourselves in being able to support people who are facing mental health difficulties by offering the opportunity to talk, in confidence, with a properly trained and supervised counsellor. Uniquely for the area, we offer counselling support for up to one year, which ensures that no client ever feels that they are hurried, or that they are just another person on the treadmill of available mental health services. We believe our service is invaluable and have many testimonies and statistics to support this.

The last year or so has been particularly challenging for The Olive Branch as we have strived to adapt to the impact of the Covid pandemic. We retrained all our 45+ volunteer counsellors so that they were able to continue their work online or by telephone and moved all our administrative processes online. Whilst these changes have been very positive in terms of our support of vulnerable people and improving our efficiency as an organisation, it has incurred costs that have left The Olive Branch in immediate and ongoing need of funds.

As an organisation that relies 100% on donations, grants such as yours are invaluable to the continuing support our charity offers to those in need. To this end, we are respectfully requesting any grant that you feel you may be able to make.

If you would like any further information, please do contact us at any time.

With kind regards, and our abject thanks, in advance, for your consideration to support our ongoing work in the community.



Juliette Ekins
Volunteer & Trustee