



Shirley Hutchison Fund

What is the Shirley Hutchison Fund?

The Shirley Hutchison Fund has been set up by the Guru Ram Das Project in memory of Shirley Hutchison's generosity, and her desire to help others. It will be used to offer financial support to Kundalini Yoga teachers who teach older adult classes. It will run initially for a period of 6 months (starting from the date of the first payment application that is approved), with a maximum spending limit of £5000. The project will be suspended as soon as either the spending limit or the end date has been reached. At which point it will be reviewed and a decision will be made as to whether or not to continue.

Who was Shirley Hutchison?

Shirley moved from New Zealand to the UK in her late teens and trained to be a nurse, working continuously in her chosen profession until she retired. In her later years she became a regular participant in one of Raghurai Singh's older adult classes for GRDP. She loved these Kundalini Yoga classes so much that she kept attending right up until the end, even after her health had started deteriorating. We discovered after her passing, that she had made GRDP one of the charitable beneficiaries of her will.



What will the fund cover and how much will it pay?

The Shirley Hutchison Fund is exclusively for current face to face or online Kundalini Yoga classes for older adults in the UK. Classes need to be at least 45 mins in length, and teachers must be being paid less than £30/class in total from all other sources of income (e.g. participant donations or class fee, standard hourly rate, travel expenses etc.).

For classes that the Guru Ram Das Project accepts as covered by the fund, GRDP will pay up to £15/class in order to take the total income from all sources as close to £30/class as possible. This means that anyone already earning £0-15/class could be paid an additional £15/class by GRDP. Whereas, a teacher already earning £25/class could receive an additional £5/class. Anyone already earning £30 or more would not receive anything.

The Guru Ram Das Project may also encourage any existing partner organisations for the class (e.g. the project where the class is held) to contribute.

How does it work?

Eligible teachers can request that their classes be covered by the fund. Once a class has been accepted as covered, payments will be made for any future sessions taught (on receipt of an invoice) until the fund is closed. Invoices will be processed once a month. Classes covered can either be already established or new and about to start. For face to face classes during the Covid pandemic, a risk assessment is required before a class can be accepted as covered. If one has not already been done, GRDP can assist with this process.

Eligibility

Teachers with KRI level 1 certification and insurance can apply to be a GRDP Teacher (if they are not already), and sign a temporary contract for service provision. This process is quick, free and easy. Once these steps have been taken, a teacher is eligible to have classes covered by the fund.

Spending limits

Once the Fund has run out, all payments will automatically stop. This may happen without prior notice. Teachers already receiving payments will not be paid for new classes or an increase in the frequency of existing classes, unless these changes have been accepted in writing by GRDP prior to the invoice. If there is a high demand for payments from the fund, the GRDP may introduce a limit to how many classes the fund will cover for each teacher. No teacher will receive more than £15/class.

Contact

For more information or to begin the sign-up process, please contact Fateh fateh@grdp.co.uk 07811 459 229 (office hours)

