



The British Benevolent Fund

Helping British citizens in Spain
in need since 1933

Our Mission

To grant timely assistance to
British citizens primarily in the
Comunidad of Madrid, and in other
areas of Spain through partner
organisations

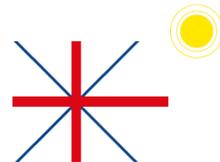
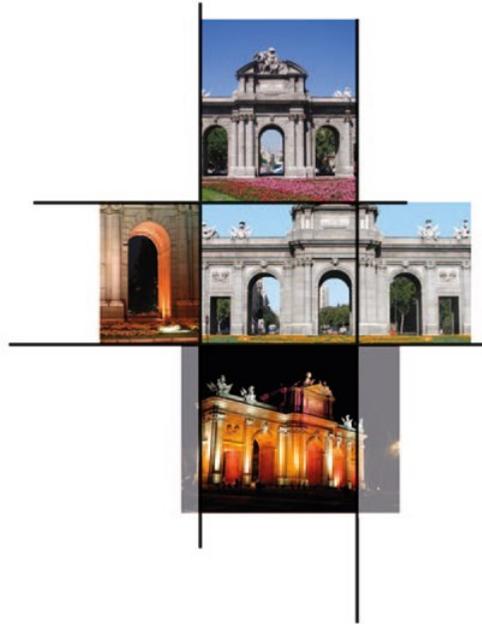
Our Values

Care, Expediency, Impartiality
Discretion

Our Partners

We work closely with The British
Consulates and other not for profit
organisations throughout Spain.
Please see our website for full details
of our partner organisations.

***All applications from outside
the Madrid province must go
through one of our partner
organisations.***



BRITISH BENEVOLENT
FUND OF MADRID

The British Benevolent Fund
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The British Benevolent Fund

British citizens in Spain in need
cared for with benevolence



BRITISH BENEVOLENT
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How We Help



Who Do We Help?

British nationals (holder of a British passport) or a dependent of a British national such as a spouse, child, parent etc., where they can clearly demonstrate:

- They are in genuine need in Spain (whether resident here or just visiting)
- They do not have the financial resources to resolve the problem themselves
- They have no further recourse to support from other sources such as the state authorities, family and friends, local charities or other organisations.

How Do We Help?

Our main activity is to provide financial grants to British Citizens in need in Spain.

However the aim of the British Benevolent Fund is that any British citizen in need or distress in Spain has the support they require and are cared for with benevolence. We recognise that when problems strike financial support alone may not be enough: it is important to have access to the right advice and services; help may be needed to understand and negotiate the Spanish system; plus counselling and emotional support might also be required.

As a Madrid based fund run solely by volunteers we do not have the resources to provide all the above services. We therefore

work with partner organisations throughout Spain, such as The British Consulates and Age Concern España, who can advise our clients on where to source the services they need.

What Help Can We Give?

Depending on the situation the British Benevolent Fund will provide either a non repayable grant or an interest free loan with flexible repayment options (the loan is repaid only when the client is able to so without causing further financial distress and can be converted to a grant should the need arise).

ONE TIME GRANTS

A single payment which will enable the client to purchase a much needed item that will resolve the issues they face.

Examples include the hire or purchase of medical, care or mobility aids; replacing essential items for victims of crime; family carers of dementia sufferers, or other health problems requiring 24 hour care, looking for a one off break.

SHORT TERM FINANCIAL RELIEF

Monthly top up payments where an individual's expenses exceed their income for a short predefined period and for specific resolvable reasons. These payments are very draining on the Benevolent Fund's resources so will only be made in exceptional circumstances.

Examples include: accident victims and indi-

viduals suffering short term acute illnesses who require interim help; clients with short term home or residential care needs; the terminally ill needing end of life care; domestic abuse victims building new lives alone; single parents waiting for child maintenance payments; the unemployed awaiting delayed benefit payments.

SOLUTIONS TO FINANCIAL INSTABILITY

Individuals struggling with insufficient income for their basic needs due to: lack of employment, medical inability to work, higher costs associated with long term health problems, low pension payments from insufficient social security contributions, ineligible for Spanish state support. Often these individuals will also be deep in debt.

The British Benevolent Fund cannot support a financially unsustainable situation nor will we pay off an individual's debt, but we will look at providing help that enables the individual to move into a more financially sustainable situation and to live independent of further aid. Ultimately we look to fund solutions.

In these cases the client may face some difficult decisions and need to make significant changes in their lives. This may include selling their property or moving to cheaper rented accommodation; renting out a room to increase income; reducing expenses perhaps by selling the car or having fewer pets; in some cases the only option is a repatriation back to the UK.

