

# British Red Cross Society Tsunami Hardship Fund

Assistance Grants For UK Residents Suffering Financial Hardship As A Direct Result Of The Indian Ocean Tsunami

## About the grants

1. The British Red Cross Society is making available three types of grant to those UK residents who are suffering significant financial hardship as a direct result of the Indian Ocean Tsunami:
  - i. A grant of **up to £10,000** is available to assist with continuing significant financial hardship. The amount of grant made available will be assessed on an individual case-by-case basis, taking into account other sources of income.

An additional grant of **up to £10,000** is available for each financially dependent child of an eligible parent or legal guardian. (i.e. a parent or guardian suffering significant financial hardship as a result of the Indian Ocean Tsunami). The amount of grant made available will be assessed on an individual case-by-case basis, taking into account the age of each dependent child and their living expenses.
  - ii. Travel and expenses grants are available to the relatives and next of kin of the deceased, the seriously injured or those suffering psychological trauma, to assist with travel and expenses related to attending particular events in the UK associated with the aftermath of the tsunami, such as attending the inquest. The amount of payment will take into account the distance travelled. You will not be required to produce receipts.
  - iii. A single grant of **up to £2,000** is available to assist with the costs of private psychological support where medically prescribed but not available on the NHS within six months of referral from your GP. The Tsunami Hardship Fund Steering Committee will however consider cases that fall outside this criterion.

This leaflet explains who the money is for and how you can obtain it.

2. The grants described above are normally only available to UK residents (i.e. individuals of any nationality permanently or long-term resident in the UK before the Tsunami. A long-term resident is someone who is resident in the UK and planning to stay in the UK for three years or more). British Nationals living overseas will be considered in exceptional circumstances and at the discretion of the Tsunami Hardship Fund Steering Committee.
3. The grants are available to UK residents who have been affected by the Tsunami in the following ways:
  - i. A bereaved spouse or live-in partner and any financially dependent relatives or other next-of-kin who have suffered significant financial hardship as a direct consequence of their bereavement.
  - ii. Individuals with serious long-term or permanent injury as a direct consequence of the tsunami and who are unable to work as a result of their injuries.
  - iii. Survivors of the tsunami who have suffered psychological trauma and who are unable to work as a consequence of their experience.

In all cases, payments will only be made where there is evidence of significant financial hardship (see section 15 of this guidance).

**All information that you provide to support your application for a grant will be treated with complete confidentiality.**

## **How can I get a grant?**

4. To apply for one of the grants you will need to:
  1. **Complete one of the application forms** attached to this leaflet.
  2. **Provide proof of your identity and (if required) of your relationship to the deceased person** We need this so that we can be sure we are giving the money to the right person.
  3. **Provide proof that you were affected by the Tsunami** See section 13 of this guidance.
  4. **Provide proof of your UK residency at the time of the Tsunami**
  5. **Provide proof of your financial hardship**
  6. **Provide authorisation to us to make enquiries with other organisations to confirm the details of your application**
  7. **Sign the form and send it, with the proof of your identity, UK residency and financial hardship, to:**  
Sally Coultas-Paul  
British Red Cross Society  
Tsunami Hardship Fund  
44 Moorfields  
London  
EC2Y 9AL

**All applications for grants to the Tsunami Hardship Fund must be received by the British Red Cross no later than 30 June 2006.**

### **What happens next?**

5. When we receive your application we will check to see that you are entitled to the payment so that we can authorise the grant. Rosie Murray (an experienced caseworker) or another member of the Red Cross staff will contact you with any queries relating to your application.
6. In assessing your claim, we may need to contact other organisations that may hold personal information about you, to confirm that you were injured and/or psychologically affected and unable to work as a result of the Indian Ocean Tsunami. We need your authority to do this and have included a statement on the application form, which if you sign the form, will allow us to do it. **We, and other organisations involved, will treat your information with complete confidentiality.**
7. Once we have completed the necessary inquiries to confirm your identity and that you are entitled to the grant, your application can then be authorised. We will deal with all applications as quickly as possible and will aim to issue grant cheque(s) within 2 days of authorisation.

### **Identification Confirmation and Documentation**

8. While we will aim to operate in a compassionate and flexible way, we do need to see the relevant documentation to confirm your identity.

### **Your identity**

9. Please include two of the following:
  - your passport
  - your driving licence
  - a recent bill sent to your home address.
10. For those who are suffering a bereavement as a result of the Indian Ocean tsunami, we also need some proof of your relationship to the deceased person. This could be:
  - your marriage certificate
  - a joint agreement with your partner, such as a joint mortgage or rent agreement or some other form of evidence
  - For children: your birth certificate
  - For parents: the deceased person's birth certificate

We will be able to confirm the names of those who are deceased with the police so you do not need to send us a copy of the death certificate.

11. For those who are applying for a grant for a financially dependent child, we will also need some proof of your relationship to the dependent child. This could be the dependent child's birth certificate or if you are the child's legal guardian the Will appointing you to this position.
12. Original documents must be provided for proof of identity, wherever possible. Copies may be accepted in exceptional cases.  
If you have any questions about what might be suitable proof of identity or you would prefer to show the documents to a Red Cross Officer rather than sending the original documents in the post, please contact Rosie Murray on 07715010987. Alternatively you can contact a Red Cross Officer with any queries by sending an email to [thf@redcross.org.uk](mailto:thf@redcross.org.uk) or by leaving a message on our Tsunami Support Network Helpline on 0845 054 7474.

### **Proof that you were affected by the Tsunami**

13. If you are injured or suffering psychological trauma you may have to provide evidence that your condition was as a direct result of the Tsunami. This will mean providing evidence that you were in the affected area at the time of the Tsunami. This could be:
  - a copy of your travel itinerary from your travel agent
  - your passport including the relevant visa

We are able to confirm the names of those who were hospitalised immediately after the Tsunami with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and so no evidence will be required in these cases.

### **Proof of residency in the UK at December 2004**

14. The grants are normally only available to individuals (of any nationality) permanently or long-term resident in the UK before the Tsunami. We therefore need proof that you were a permanent/long term resident in the UK on or before the 26<sup>th</sup> December 2004. This could be:
  - wage or salary slips for the 3 months leading up to December 2004
  - utility bills for the 3 months leading up to December 2004
  - a lease or mortgage agreement covering the 3 months up to December 2004

### **Proof of financial hardship**

15. The grants are only available to individuals who are suffering significant financial hardship. You will be asked to describe the circumstances that have led to your loss in income and/or increase in expenditure and to quantify the amounts. You will be asked to provide a financial summary of your current monthly income and expenses and to provide evidence that your monthly income is not enough to pay for essential items. (Essential items include mortgage or loan repayments, lease or rental payments on

your home, house insurance, council tax, utility bills, fuel/insurance/tax for your car and groceries). In order to facilitate your application, please provide as much evidence as possible to support your financial summary. This could include:

- a photocopy of any benefits you currently receive from social services (*this will be very useful because anyone in receipt of benefits will have already undergone a financial assessment*)
- a mortgage/loan agreements
- credit card statements for the previous 3 months
- bank statements for the previous 3 months

### **How will the grant be paid?**

16. Normally the grant will be made available as a cheque in GB pounds, made payable to the applicant. This can be paid directly into a UK bank account. Exceptionally, money can also be made available through an international money order for applicants living outside the UK. Please indicate on the application form if this will be necessary and Rosie Murray will contact you to obtain further details.

17. It is not possible to provide cash or to meet invoices or reimburse receipts.

### **Help with your application**

18. If you need help with your application or have queries you want answering you can contact Rosie Murray (an experienced caseworker) on 07715010987 between 9.00am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday. Outside these hours you can leave a message and she will call you back as soon as possible. Alternatively you can contact a Red Cross Officer with any queries by sending an email to [thf@redcross.org.uk](mailto:thf@redcross.org.uk) or by leaving a message on our Tsunami Support Network helpline on 0845 054 7474.

### **What if I am not satisfied with the decision about my application?**

19. Any queries or concerns with respect of that decision should be directed to:

The Director of UK Services Development  
British Red Cross Society  
Tsunami Hardship Fund  
44 Moorfields  
London  
EC2Y 9AL

All Appeals will be considered in line with our independent appeals process – details of which are available on request.



# British Red Cross Society Tsunami Hardship Fund

## Grant Application for Bereaved Family Members

1. The name and address of the deceased person.....  
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2. What was your relationship with this person? (place an X in the right box).

Husband or wife                       Partner                       Son or daughter   
Mother or Father                       Other (please state)  .....

3. Name of Police Family Liaison Officer (if available) .....  
Contact number for Family Liaison Officer (if available) .....

4. Please list the document(s) you are attaching to provide proof of your relationship with the deceased person  
.....  
.....  
(see paragraph 10 of the guidance)

5. Your name and address (including postcode).....  
.....  
.....

(Please note that the grant cheque, if authorised, will be made payable to this person and sent to this address unless otherwise advised.)

Phone Number..... Mobile number.....

Email address.....

6. Please indicate below how much financial assistance you are applying for. If you need advice on your application please contact Rosie Murray or email [thf@redcross.org.uk](mailto:thf@redcross.org.uk) for assistance. (Please note your application will be assessed and decided by the Fund Project Manager).

- i. A hardship grant: £.....
- ii. Additional grant for dependent children: £.....
- iii. Travel & expenses grant: £.....
- iv. Psychological support grant: £.....

**7. Proof of your financial hardship (must be provided for all types of grant applied for)**

Please describe the circumstances arising as a result of the Tsunami that have led to your financial hardship. Please also state how much monthly income you have lost and/or how much additional cost you have incurred (please say what evidence you are enclosing to support your claim).

In addition, please list the major items of your current **monthly** income and expenses (including values) and provide any details of evidence you will be enclosing with this application to support these items. If the application form does not provide enough space you can enclose additional sheets with details of the information required below:

<p><b>Monthly Income</b> (e.g. list any benefits you receive)</p>	<p><b>Details of supporting evidence provided</b></p>
<p><b>Monthly Expenses</b> (e.g. mortgage &amp; loan repayments, rent, Council Tax, credit cards, utility bills, food)</p>	

8. If you are applying for an additional grant for dependent children please provide their names, their age and describe their relationship to the deceased person and to yourself (the applicant)

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9. Please say what you are enclosing with this application as proof of your relationship to any dependent children

- The dependent child's birth certificate
- A will appointing the legal guardian

10. In addition, for each dependent child, please provide details of their living expenses and the amounts. (e.g. food, clothing, school books, school trips, accommodation costs). If you have any questions about what expenses to include, please contact Rosie Murray on 07715010987 or send an email to [thf@redcross.org.uk](mailto:thf@redcross.org.uk).

Name of dependent child	Description of expense	Amount

11. If you are applying for a travel and expenses grant please indicate which UK event(s) the application relates to, together with details of your journey.

.....

.....

.....

12. If you are applying for a grant for psychological support then please provide the following details about your medical advisers:

Details of your GP	Name: Address:  Telephone:
Details of your consultant/medical specialist	Name: Address:  Telephone:

In addition, please either describe your condition or incapacity or, if you prefer to do so, tick the box below:

Description of psychological condition or incapacity and medical treatment you are having:
--

Or

I would prefer to discuss my condition/incapacity with the caseworker.

**Proof of medical treatment**

Please say what you are enclosing as proof of medical treatment at this stage (eg GP's referral letter, GP's certificate, photocopies of appointment cards, letters from hospital etc). Please note we may need to see further documentation and/or originals.

**13. Proof of your identity**

Please say what you are enclosing with this application as proof of your identity. *(place an X in the right boxes)*

- Passport
- Driving licence
- A recent bill sent to your home address
- Other (please describe)  .....

**14. Proof of your residency in the UK**

Please say what you are enclosing with this application as proof of your UK residency at the time of the Tsunami. *(see paragraph 14 of the Guidance)*

.....

15. I would like payment to be made in a foreign currency. **Yes / No**  
*(Please delete as applicable. If you say Yes, Rosie Murray, our caseworker will contact you.)*

**16. Declaration.**

By signing this form I hereby authorise you to contact other organisations which may hold personal data about me. I confirm that the details provided on the form are accurate, and that the documents and/or photocopies provided are true copies.

Signed..... Date .....

Send your completed form and supporting documents to Sally Coultas-Paul, British Red Cross Society, Tsunami Hardship Fund, 44 Moorfields, London, EC2Y 9AL



# British Red Cross Society Tsunami Hardship Fund

## Grant Application for the Seriously Injured/Incapacitated

1. Name.....

Address (including postcode).....

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.....  
.....

*(Please note that the grant cheque, if authorised, will be made payable to this person and sent to this address unless otherwise advised.)*

Phone Number ..... Mobile number .....

Email address .....

Date of birth .....

2. Please list the document (s) you are attaching to provide proof that your injuries/incapacitation were as a result of the Tsunami.  
If you have any questions about what might be suitable proof, please contact Rosie Murray on 07715010987 or send an email to [thf@redcross.org.uk](mailto:thf@redcross.org.uk).

.....  
.....  
.....

3. Please indicate below how much financial assistance you are applying for. If you need advice on your application please contact Rosie Murray or email [thf@redcross.org.uk](mailto:thf@redcross.org.uk) for assistance. (Please note your application will be assessed and decided by the Fund Project Manager).

- i. A hardship grant: £.....
- ii. Additional grant for dependent children: £.....
- iii. Travel & expenses grant: £.....
- iv. Psychological support grant: £.....

**4. Proof of your financial hardship (must be provided for all types of grant applied for)**

Please describe the circumstances arising as a result of the Tsunami that have led to your financial hardship. Please also state how much monthly income you have lost and/or how much additional cost you have incurred (please say what evidence you are enclosing to support your claim).

In addition, please list the major items of your current **monthly** income and expenses (including values) and provide any details of evidence you will be enclosing with this application to support these items. If the application form does not provide enough space you can enclose additional sheets with details of the information required below:

<b>Monthly Income</b> (e.g. list any benefits you receive)	<b>Details of supporting evidence provided</b>
<b>Monthly Expenses</b> (e.g. mortgage & loan repayments, rent, Council Tax, credit cards, utility bills, food)	

5. Please give the following details about your medical advisers:

Details of your GP	Name: Address:  Telephone:
Details of your consultant/medical specialist	Name: Address:  Telephone:

PLEASE NOTE that by signing the declaration in section 11 of this form you consent to your medical advisers disclosing information to the British Red Cross about your injuries or incapacity.

In addition, please either describe your injury, condition or incapacity or, if you prefer to do so, tick the box below:

Description of physical injury/psychological condition or incapacity and medical treatment you are having:
--

Or

I would prefer to discuss my injury/incapacity with the caseworker.

**Proof of medical treatment**

Please say what you are enclosing as proof of medical treatment at this stage (e.g. GP's referral letter, GP's certificate, photocopies of appointment cards, letters from hospital etc). Please note we may need to see further documentation and/or originals.

6. If you are applying for a grant for dependent children please provide their names, their age and describe their relationship to yourself

.....  
.....  
.....

Please say what you are enclosing with this application as proof of your relationship to any dependent children

The dependent child's birth certificate

The will appointing the legal guardian

In addition, for each dependent child, please provide details of their living expenses and the amounts (e.g. food, clothing, school books, school trips, accommodation costs). If you have any questions about what expenses to include, please contact Rosie Murray on 07715010987 or send an email to [thf@redcross.org.uk](mailto:thf@redcross.org.uk)

Name of dependent child	Description of expense	Amount

7. If you are applying for a travel and expenses grant please indicate which event(s) the application relates to, together with details of your journey.

.....  
.....  
.....

**8. Proof of your identity**

Please say what you are enclosing with this application as proof of your identity. *(place an X in the right boxes)*

- Your passport
- Your driving licence
- A recent bill sent to your home address
- Other (please describe)  .....

**9. Proof of your residency in the UK**

Please say what you are enclosing with this application as proof of your UK residency at the time of the Tsunami. *(see paragraph 14 of the Guidance)*

.....  
.....

10. I would like payment to be made in a foreign currency. **Yes / No**  
*(Please delete as applicable. If you say Yes, Rosie Murray, our caseworker will contact you.)*

**11. Declaration.**

By signing this form I hereby authorise you to contact other organisations which may hold personal data about me. I confirm that the details provided on the form are accurate, and that the documents and/or photocopies provided are true copies.

Signed..... Date .....

Send your completed form and supporting documents to Sally Coultas-Paul, British Red Cross Society, Tsunami Hardship Fund, 44 Moorfields, London, EC2Y 9AL