

Uniting the global sporting community's efforts to protect vulnerable children and young people in the aftermath of COVID-19

In the current crisis, vulnerable children and young people risk being left behind. Organisations are having to close their doors, leaving many without the safe and inclusive spaces to find help and support that are usually provided by programmes and their partners. Whilst people from all backgrounds are being affected by the virus, many of the world's most vulnerable groups face challenges that have been compounded overnight. For some of the 2.34 billion children currently under some form of confinement due to COVID-19, this increases their risk of exposure to violence, including sexual abuse, exploitation and challenges to their mental health.

The Sport for Good Response Fund aims to ensure that Sport for Development programmes can continue in times of crisis and that vital new channels to young people can be created to ensure that they get the support they need both now and when we begin to emerge from this pandemic. We are calling on the world's sporting community to join this collaborative movement to use their power and influence in a united way to support the sector that in turn supports so many.

We're already seeing worrying rises in the very issues that the Sport for Development sector works to address, for example:

There has been an increase in **domestic violence** hotline calls in Germany of 17% and 25% in the UK alone, with women and children at a greater risk of abuse within their own homes.

Young people are **losing their jobs at a higher rate**, with those on low or no salaries amongst the hardest hit, further increasing both social and intergenerational inequality.

In the UK, more than **80% of children with mental health** challenges showed a worsening of their wellbeing as a result of the restrictions imposed. Children are experiencing increased worry, anxiety and fear, without the structure and social support to help them through this time.

More than **1.5 billion children** and young people have been affected by school closures worldwide and many are turning to online solutions. Spending more time on virtual platforms can leave children vulnerable to **online sexual exploitation** and grooming.

HOW WILL THE FUND WORK?

Laureus Sport for Good will manage the central fund and receive donations from funding partners and/or individuals. All donations will be restricted to the Sport for Good Response Fund to ensure maximum support for those most in need.

For many children and young people globally, the unfortunate truth is that safety is often found in spaces outside of their homes. During a time in which children do not have access to schools, sports-based activities or a wider support network, this Fund will enable Sport for Development organisations in the following ways:



CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Deliver new or adaptive provision to continue to provide support to children and young people during the current pandemic.



PROGRAMMES

Offer financial support to sports-based programmes so that they can withstand current challenges and provide strength and guidance to children and young people once restrictions are lifted.



WHY LAUREUS SPORT FOR GOOD?



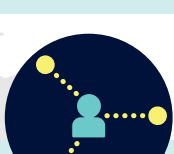
WE UNITE

We believe in bringing people together and building bridges between communities and individuals. Today we are seeing the importance of this more than ever as the nations of the world co-operate to share understanding and expertise to beat COVID-19.



WE THINK GLOBALLY AND ACT LOCALLY

We have an existing global network of Sport for Development partners, in addition to our eight National Foundation offices, to manage this fund globally and deliver funds locally to those most in need. Together, we can create real social change.



WE KNOW HOW

We already operate as a central coordinator for funding, knowledge and awareness between the sport sector, athletes, other funders and the Sport for Development and Community sport organisations.



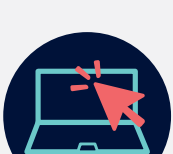
POWER OF SPORT

When the world begins to heal from this current COVID-19 crisis, we believe that this fund will be more necessary than ever as we continue to use sport as a powerful, trauma-sensitive tool to rebuild our communities and societies together.

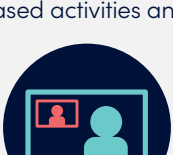
HOW WILL MY SUPPORT MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

As part of the Sport for Good Response Fund, your contribution will support essential services such as:

REACHING THOSE IN NEED:



Convert programme activities into online, distance-based activities and resources

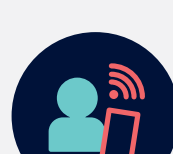


Regular sessions and activities with mentors, educators, psychologists and coaches to support the physical and mental health of children and young people most in need

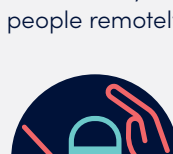


Outreach activities, safely run, to reach and support families, aiming at strengthening the safety of the places where the children and young people spend their time in social isolation

ADAPTING OUR APPROACH:



Equip coaches with the resources and training they need to support children and young people remotely

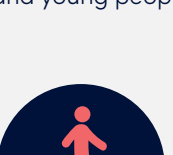


Adapting safeguarding policies and protocols to ensure activities in the digital space are as safe and secure as the programmes that are normally run on the pitches and fields, on the courts and tracks, and in the school sports facilities

INVESTING IN THE FUTURE:



Supporting organisations in retaining staff and volunteers through the crisis so that at the end of the tunnel, they can resume activities and continue the critical support to children and young people



Helping young people at risk of offending/re-offending or of falling back into gangs and violence, to maintain their course towards more sustainable and legal livelihoods, employment and entrepreneurship

WHO CAN APPLY FOR FUNDING?

Laureus Sport for Good partners, as well as any organisation around the world who is already using sport to deliver development outcomes, can apply for funds to:



Deliver new ways to support children and young people in changing circumstances



Contribute unavoidable organisational costs that result from COVID-19 to ensure the organisation can continue to support children and young people going forward



€10,000

Organisations can apply to the Fund once only, and for up to EUR10,000. The Fund will be open for applications for a minimum of three months.

Visit www.Laureus.com/ResponseFund for full details about the application process

To support the Sport for Good Response Fund, please contact Director of Development **Vicky Lowe**. You can also donate directly to Laureus Sport for Good online at **Laureus.com**

