



NHP

Living connected and fulfilling lives

“I'm honestly over the moon, it's gonna help me progress so much and was just the thing I needed to give me extra motivation”

- House Project Young Person - Aspirational Award winner

National House Project – Aspirational Awards Appeal

From Care to Confidence: Backing Young People's Ambitions

Every year in the UK, around 10,000 young people leave care. Many face this step into adulthood at just 16–18 years old, without the family safety net most young people rely on until their mid-20s.

The challenges are stark:

- 1 in 3 care leavers become homeless within two years of leaving care.
- They are four times more likely to experience mental health problems.
- 39% of 19–21-year-old care leavers are NEET (not in education, employment or training), compared with 13% of their peers.

We believe every young person deserves a home, a community, and the opportunity to thrive. Our Local House Projects give care leavers choice, control and support as they move into their first home and learn to live independently.

But as well as housing, independence is the chance to dream, to achieve, and to build a life full of possibility. That's why we created the Aspirational Awards.

What Are Aspirational Awards?

Our Aspirational Awards are sums of money given to young people who have completed our House Project Programme and are living in their own home. They help them to achieve an ambition, dream or business start-up that will have a lasting impact on their life .

Awards can support ambitions such as:

Accessing a
training course.

Setting up a
small business.

Developing a
sporting or
creative interest.

Travelling to
volunteer or gain
skills.

Find out more about our Aspirational Awards on our [website](#).

There is no minimum or maximum value for applications. Awards are guided by a young person's plan and reviewed by a panel of NHP staff, partners, and young people. Every applicant receives feedback, and if successful, follow-up checks are made 1–3 months later to understand the impact.



Alan was one of the first recipients of an Aspirational Award in 2022 when the panel awarded him funds towards photographic equipment and travel.

“The Aspirational Awards gave me the opportunity to change things. They gave me the equipment I needed to get me started on my path. It's given me my profession and it's given me my future.”

Watch 'Alan's Story' created through collaboration with NHP and Reels in Motion [here](#).

Ambition Thrives With Support

Since the scheme began in 2022:

- 67 awards have been made, totalling £86,877.
- Grants have ranged from £200 to £5,000.
- Awards have supported ambitions across education, training, enterprise, volunteering, sport, and the arts.

Examples include:

- £400 for a 3D printer to pursue engineering studies.
- £820 for acting classes and travel.
- £1,800 for tools to start a trade business.
- £2,500 for studio time and a music video project.
- £4,000 for travel to volunteer overseas.

The Awards are investments in ambition - small, timely grants that unlock opportunity and strengthen independence.



Why Care Leavers Need Your Support

Young people leaving care have ambition, but too often their aspirations are blocked by financial barriers. Many of us can turn to parents for help with “extras” like a course fee, travel costs, or start-up equipment. For care leavers, those doors are usually closed.

The Aspirational Awards provide the kind of support many of us take for granted, and in doing so, they change lives.

Your Grant, Their Future

We can:

- **Fund more Awards:** ensuring no young person’s ambition is thwarted by lack of funds.
- **Expand impact:** building confidence, skills, and resilience among care leavers across the UK.
- **Multiply change:** every award benefits not only the recipient, but their communities, and futures.

Your Gift in Action

We invite you to partner with us in scaling the Aspirational Awards. Your support can directly enable care-experienced young people to pursue ambitions that shape their future:

- £10,000 – Changes multiple lives in a single round of Awards.
- £5,000 – Backs young entrepreneurs to build sustainable independence.
- £1,000 – Pays for a training course that opens the door to work.
- £500 – Funds the kit that allows a young person to turn a hobby into a career.

Every award is tracked, with outcomes captured and anonymised case studies shared with funders.

Believe in Them. Invest in Them.

The Aspirational Awards are about hope, dignity, and belief. Each grant tells a care-experienced young person, “We see you, we believe in you, and your future matters.”

Thank you for standing with us and transforming that belief into action.