

SCORE update November 2024

At the November SCORE committee meeting grants totalling £11,251 were distributed as follows:

Farm Africa. A grant of £3,000 was approved

Established in 1985 this charity works with people in rural Kenya. It aims to help farmers make the most of their land and water resources, and grow the most appropriate and profitable crops. It helps farmers build co-operatives so that they can sell in bulk. One part of the project is aimed specifically at women who have small holdings. Farm Africa enables them to support their families and aid the education of their children.

This particular project is championed by Minette Batters (local farmer and NFU former president) who is an Ambassador for Farm Africa. She has visited the scheme and worked alongside the farmers.

The Hope Exchange, Cape Town, S. Africa. A grant of £2,351 was approved

The Hope Exchange works with some of the 14,000 homeless people in Cape Town. Their work includes social enterprise projects which allow people to train so that they can find work. In the past SCORE has supported some of these schemes. The current application is for 'Feed5000' - a scheme which provides nutritious meals every day from mid-December to mid-January. Last year 15,000 meals were provided during the Christmas period.

SCORE received instant feedback from Marie Slundt of The Hope Exchange. She reports that she 'had a terrible start to the week' and was very moved when on a stressful day, when getting behind with everything, 3 clients turned up to help her. Then she opened her computer to find news of the grant from SCORE. 'I know that with SCORE's help I will be able to provide them and others with a meal during our festive season'.

Rise:61. A grant of £3,000 was approved

Rise:61 is a Christian youth charity set up in 2014 to serve Bemerton Heath. The area is ranked among the most deprived 20% of neighbourhoods in England. Rise:61 aims to see people's lives transformed in every way, including faith in Jesus.

As part of its mission Rise:61 would like to take a number of young leaders to 'Spring Harvest Festival 2025'. Last year a group was taken on a camping weekend retreat. This coming year a stay at Butlins is the preferred option which the young people will enjoy, perhaps more than the camping!

CRESS. A grant of £3,000 was approved

CRESS (Christian Relief and Education for South Sudanese) is based in Broad Chalke and was founded in 2011 by Caroline Lamb. It works with refugees leaving the war zone of S Sudan to find safety in Northern Uganda. CRESS aims to give refugees the skills they need to form communities which can, in the long term, be taken back to their homeland. Education, agriculture, health, sanitation, savings groups and spiritual support are part of the CRESS mission. The SCORE grant will specifically support work with 150,000 refugees in the Kobolo district where CRESS runs health centres. Malaria and typhoid are particular problems and 1 in 23 children dies before reaching their first birthday. The SCORE grant will fund almost half the cost of medicines in 2025.

Thank you for your contributions to SCORE

The grants made on your behalf make a difference to the lives of people here and around the world. Feedback received by the committee clearly shows this. Part of the SCORE mission is to relieve poverty, advance education and promote Christianity by these means.