



**Sons & Friends
of the Clergy**

FOUR YEAR REPORT



2017

SUPPORT (2017 compared to 2016) at record levels

TOTAL GRANT SPEND
£2.66m
up almost **10%**

1,035 GRANTS AWARDED
UP **14%**

529 GRANTS TO INDIVIDUALS
(excluding ordinands)

504 GRANTS TO ORDINANDS
(£350 each)
up **37%**

£201k SUPPORT PROVIDED TO WIDOWS AND FAMILY MEMBERS
UP **27%**

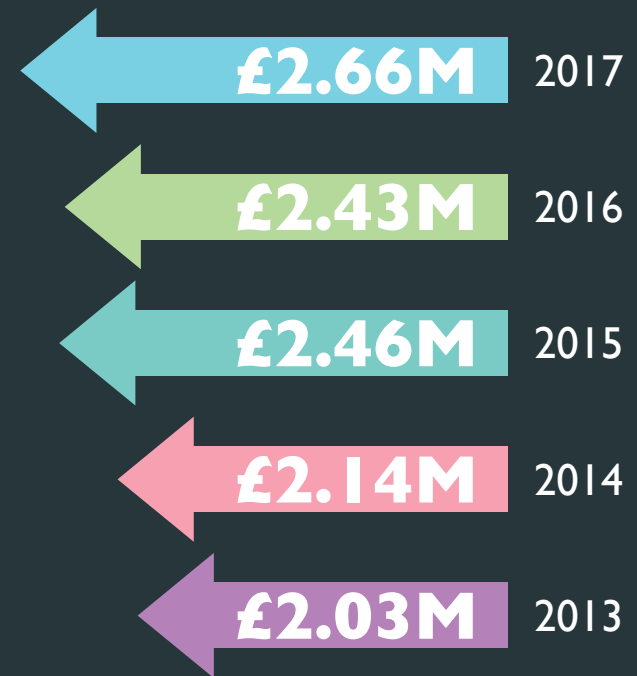
53 GRANTS PROVIDED TO SPOUSES
(divorced/separated)

ABOUT US

Our origins date back to 1655 when a group of clergy sons gathered for a service in St Paul's Cathedral and a collection was taken for the destitute families of priests dispossessed of their livings under Oliver Cromwell. The charity received a Royal Charter from Charles II in 1678. We have since grown by the amalgamation of various clergy support bodies and today we are the largest UK charity focused exclusively on supporting Anglican clergy families. We are widely known for our annual Festival Service which still takes place at St Paul's each year.



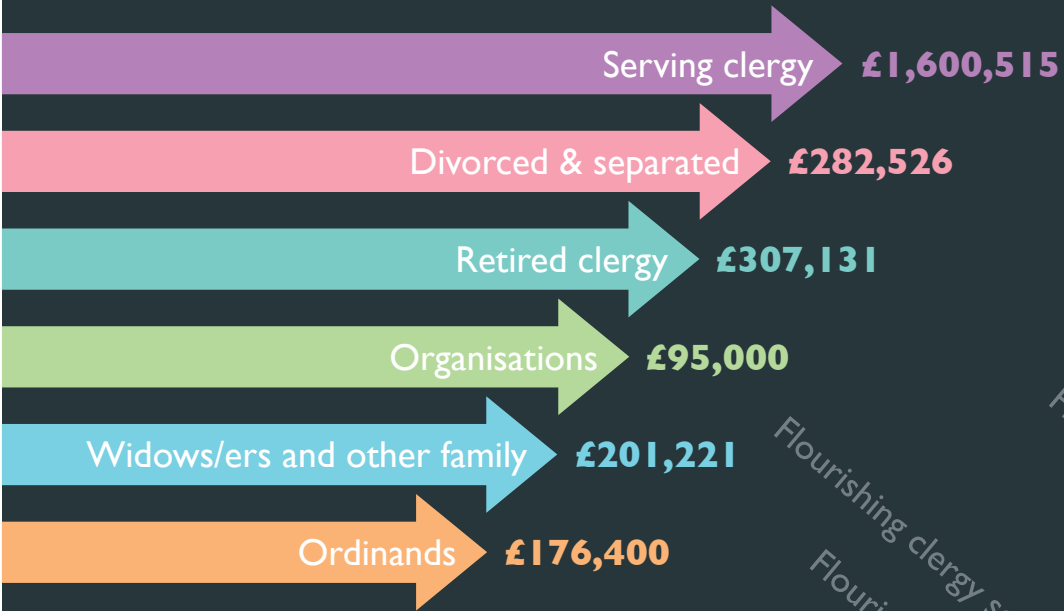
OVER £11M GRANTS IN THE LAST FIVE YEARS



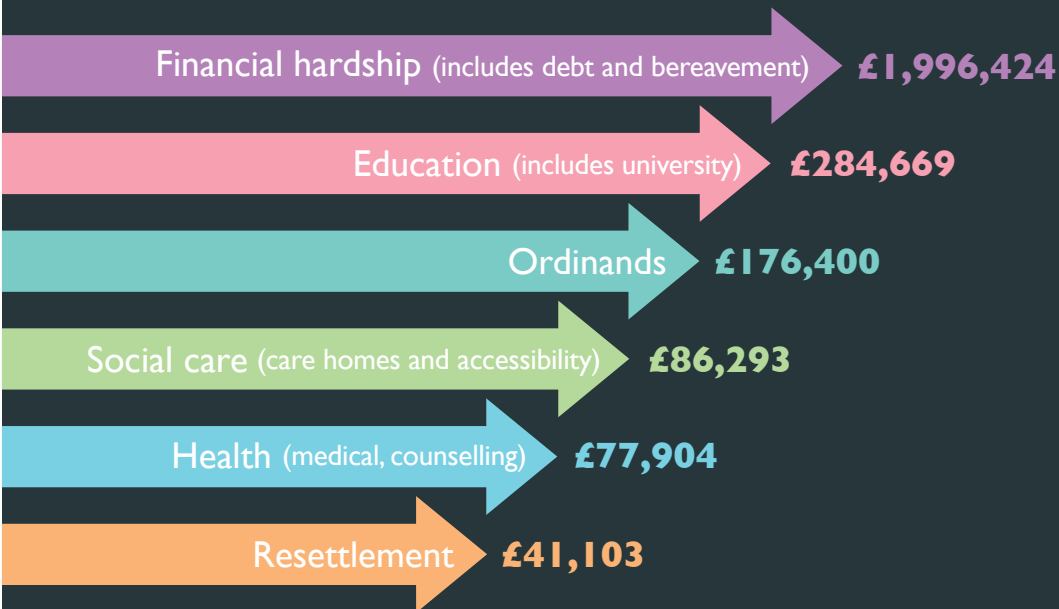
OUR MISSION

Our mission is to support serving and retired Anglican clergy families and their dependants in times of hardship. Our main way of doing this at present is to provide one-off grants to eligible households for whom the clergy stipend or other sources of income are, in particular situations, inadequate. In 2017, we widened our charitable objects to include the promotion of health alongside the prevention and relief of poverty or hardship and the relief of illness, whether physical or mental.

2017 GRANTS AWARDED



HOW WE SUPPORTED OUR BENEFICIARIES 2017



2017 INCOME

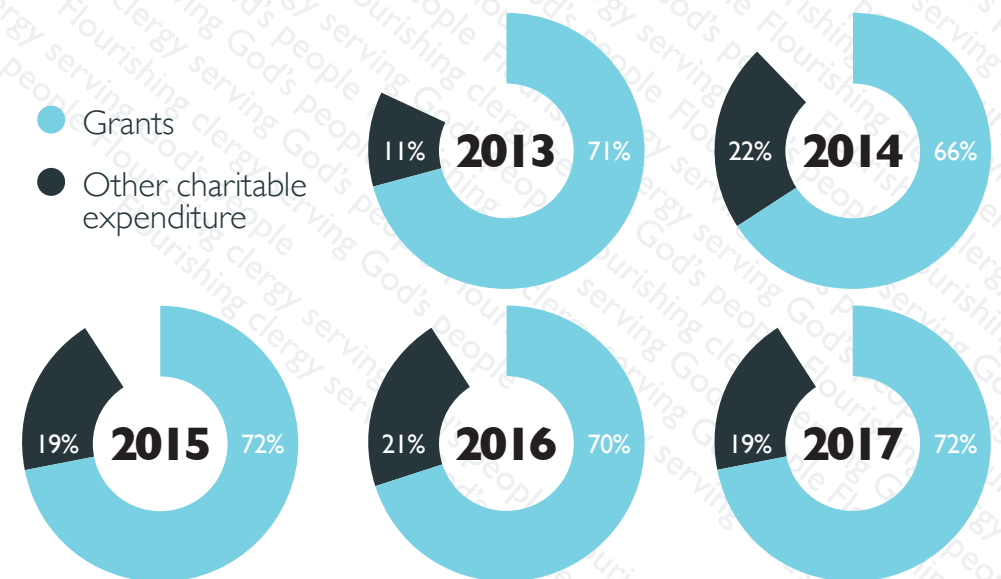
INVESTMENT INCOME	DONATIONS AND LEGACIES
£3,804,652	£155,418

2017 EXPENDITURE

GRANTS	OTHER CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE
£2,662,793	£697,247
RAISING FUNDS	
£314,042*	

* Includes investment management costs

GRANTS AND OTHER CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE AS % OF TOTAL



FEEDBACK FROM OUR BENEFICIARIES

"I cannot thank you enough for the generous grant you have awarded to me... this grant will make a very real impact on my home life and continuing ministry."

"This gift takes a lot of pressure off what is already a very difficult pastoral situation and I am enormously grateful for your support."

"Thank you so much, the grant will be such a help to my studies. I really appreciate the support."

"May I just say a massive thank you to Sons & Friends for this extremely helpful financial gift. We are speechless!"

"Thank you so much for the gift. It will really help me and has already helped take quite a load off my mind."

MARK'S STORY

After years supporting his ordained wife and looking after four children, Mark found himself having to move out of the vicarage, due to the breakdown of his marriage. The diocese had found Mark a house to rent, but he required furniture to accommodate his four children. Mark's priority was to create a stable home for his children while transitioning through his divorce. Mark was aware he could eventually apply for Housing Benefit and Council Tax Support, but had no savings and was also servicing two debts.

After applying to us for a hardship grant, Mark was awarded a gift of **£5,000**, which he was able to use towards furniture costs.

ANNE'S STORY

Anne had recently retired from ordained ministry, living in rented accommodation with little savings and a small church pension for income. Sadly, Anne's mother, who lived abroad, passed away suddenly. Anne was unable to afford the airfare to attend her mother's funeral.

After applying to us, Anne was awarded a hardship grant of **£6,000**, which she put towards the cost of attending her mother's funeral. This helped relieve her financial worries during this difficult time.

WILLIAM'S STORY

William, a married vicar with three children, was struggling financially due to some recent unexpected expenses. The family had incurred several emergency costs including car repairs, vet bills and school trips.

After applying to us, William was awarded a financial hardship grant of **£5,300**. This enabled him to respond to emergency bills and also allowed him to put some of the money aside towards a sabbatical and a much-needed family holiday.

We provide help to the following groups in times of poverty, hardship or illness:

ELIGIBLE GROUPS

- Serving and retired Anglican clergy and their dependants
- Divorced and separated spouses and civil partners of eligible clergy
- Widows, widowers and surviving civil partners of eligible clergy
- Anglican ordinands training for ministry in the UK

The relevant clergy must be working in or have worked in the UK, Ireland, the Diocese in Europe, the Isle of Man, or the Channel Islands, or be ordained mission partners working abroad under the sponsorship of a UK-based missionary society.

We are an independent and confidential organisation. Applications for financial hardship are subject to a financial assessment to ensure we are meeting our charitable object of 'relief and prevention of poverty or hardship'. All support is provided by our small team of grants officers.



A CLOSER LOOK AT CLERGY FINANCIAL WELLBEING

(Living Ministry survey, December 2017)

Sons & Friends co-funded with Ministry Division in 2017 some detailed analysis of the financial wellbeing of Anglican clergy and ordinands. Highlights of this and other research by Ministry Division included:

- Most clergy are doing well but **20%** of ordained clergy and **34%** of ordinands are struggling or 'just about getting by' financially
- **29%** of ordained clergy with children under 16 in the household reported financial difficulties
- **43%** of those in stipendiary ministry said they were finding it difficult to save money regularly
- **17%** of respondents (ordained clergy and ordinands) said they felt regularly, often or always burned out by their ministerial role
- **26%** felt isolated in their ministry/training
- **20%** felt isolated in their personal life

Sons & Friends exists to support these and others struggling in ordained Anglican ministry, so that they can flourish as they seek to serve God's people and their wider communities.

2018 strategic review

With increasing interest in clergy wellbeing, Sons & Friends of the Clergy will be reviewing its strategy in 2018 and would love to hear your views, and to keep you informed of developments. We promise we won't ask you for money! If you are interested in being involved, please sign up at www.sonsandfriends.org.uk/signup.

Further information about the charity can be found in the full financial statements and trustees' annual report for 2017, available at www.sonsandfriends.org.uk/about-us/documents/



I Dean Trench Street, Westminster, London SW1P 3HB

T 020 7799 3696 or E enquiries@sonsandfriends.org.uk

www.sonsandfriends.org.uk

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