



HOUSEHOLD

## Invitation to Tender

Evaluation of the Household *Homeward Bound* programme

Deadline: Friday 2nd August 2019

### **1. Introduction**

Funded by the Paul Hamlyn Foundation, Household Belfast CIC delivers *Homeward Bound*, a programme of participatory art activities in collaboration with local residents, partners and organisations in Sailortown, a historical Belfast neighbourhood.

Household wishes to appoint an evaluator to work with the small staff team whilst delivering this programme. The role requires an experienced evaluator able to support the Household team to use *Homeward Bound* as a demonstration model for the delivery of high-quality artistic activity that benefits audiences and participants and fosters new relationships and approaches.

We require a critical friend that will work alongside us, who we can learn from and who will act as an external eye to assist us in collating and evaluating data, bringing a degree of objectivity to the process of delivering the programme whilst simultaneously building internal capacity.

### **2. About Household and the *Homeward Bound* programme**

Household is a Belfast based organisation founded in 2012 that develops and shares inspiring and thought-provoking art projects with people in the public realm.

We are a Community Interest Company (CIC) led collectively by a small team of dedicated Co-Directors and collaboration is at the heart of how we work with each other and with our stakeholders.

Running until November 2021, our *Homeward Bound* programme engages with the people, the past, the present, and the future of Sailortown, and is co-designed with local stakeholders. Household commissions experimental workshops, residencies, exhibitions, workshops, and other ambitious cultural activities and delivers them in public and community spaces. *Homeward Bound* strengthens our organisation and the sector, involves dozens of community and funding partners, and will generate and share new ways of working in our city.

We hope that *Homeward Bound* will help participants to recognise and develop their own creativity, learn new skills, and build confidence and self-esteem. Activities will help to strengthen community bonds and increase civic pride in, and ownership of, the neighbourhood. The programme will help Household increase capacity and its reputation and produce robust evidence of long-term, lasting impact in Sailortown.

We aim to generate better joined up provision to support community developments; build a stronger local community of participants and audiences; and champion the change that high quality art activity can deliver for people in Belfast. *Homeward Bound* will act as a tool to help to re-evaluate how public art is commissioned and produced in the city, and we hope that in the long run it can assist us and our partners to strengthen arts policy and funding strategies.

We want the *Homeward Bound* programme to deliver and promote high quality art and cultural activities, and to benefit, and better engage with, more participants, audiences and stakeholders. We want to use the findings of the evaluation to impact on the design and delivery of our activities up to 2021, and beyond.

### **3. About the evaluation objectives**

We approach the evaluation of this programme as learning with and from our evaluator and it will inform the work that we do. We are seeking to answer some key questions. These questions are still being formed and we shall work with the evaluator to further define them.

The overall goal of the evaluation is to assess the impact of the *Homeward Bound* programme. In order to achieve this we would like to explore the following key questions:

- What is the value and effectiveness of our methods and approaches?
- How does this programme benefit our stakeholders?
- How can we connect our work to other disciplines and programmes, ensure cross pollination, and support our partners in their activities?
- How does the *Homeward Bound* programme contribute to Household's development as an organisation?

Through this, we are also interested in exploring these wider questions:

- How can we define high-quality public art? What are its indicators?
- What are the conditions for delivering high quality art in Belfast, for both Household, the artists it works with, and the sector in general?
- How can we connect 'the local to the universal' and make more people aware of our work in a wider NI, UK and international context?
- Who should we share our methods and approaches with, why should we share, and what impact can this have?
- What lessons can we learn from the programme about Household's future development and ways of working?

#### **4. Outputs and deliverables**

We are looking at external support over the period September 2019 – Dec 2021 to include::

-Proposing appropriate evaluation methods and developing the final evaluation framework with us;

- Supporting the evaluation process with both 'on the ground' and remote data collection, analysis and interpretation;

- Where necessary, carrying out primary research, to bring an external perspective and input to our programme. This may include the facilitation of group discussion and conversations with external stakeholders, reflection and milestone meetings, and interviews with staff, artists, and partners.

- Writing two interim reports and a final report by November 2021 and interim / final review meetings with the Household team.

- Acting as a critical friend and mentor, providing both support and reflection of the work being carried out by the Household team.

We regard the evaluator as a collaborator, someone who can challenge as well as complement our work and inform the development of future activities through their insight and observation.

#### **5. What we are looking for from the consultants**

- Demonstrable experience of evaluation work

- A track record of working with smaller organisations, preferably in the arts or community sectors
- Excellent interpersonal, people, questioning and listening skills;
- Experience of facilitating groups;
- Understanding of interactive, collective and creative approaches to evaluation;
- Experience of gathering data in a community context from participants and audiences of all ages and backgrounds.
- Understanding and experience of working in the cultural sector in Northern Ireland . It is also highly desirable that you are based in Northern Ireland/ Republic of Ireland.

The evaluation will be led by Household's Co-Directors. A more detailed list of deliverable targets will be agreed at appointment.

## **Budget**

£13,500 including fee, any expenses and travel, and VAT.

## **6. How to apply:**

Please send a proposal (of no more than six A4 pages) that includes:

- An outline of your approach to addressing our evaluation objectives, outputs and deliverables, including the methodology you propose to use.
- Details of your suitability.
- A budget, including a breakdown of your daily fee and expenses.
- A CV of no more than two A4 pages, including two references (we will only follow up on these when we consider appointing a candidate).

Send applications to Alissa Kleist and Sighle Bhreathnach-Cashell at [info@householdbelfast.co.uk](mailto:info@householdbelfast.co.uk) no later than **Friday 2 August 2019**. The selection process will take place within one week of this date. Any queries should be directed to the aforementioned email address.

We anticipate this post to commence at the start of September 2019.

We are happy to receive applications from individuals and teams. Further supplementary information is available on request.